# The Sydney Morning Herald

NO. 7038.—VOL. XLII. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1860. PRICE THREEPENCE.


## BIRTHS.

On the 27th instant, at Burnbank House, St. Leonard's, North Shore, Mrs. James Malcolm, junior; of a son.

On the 18th instant, at Vaucluse, Mrs. Thomas Evans, of a daughter.

At her residence, Mount Pleasant, Illawarra, Mrs. H. J. Marr, of a son, stillborn.

## DEATHS.

On the 25th instant, at her residence, Castlereagh-street South, Ann, the beloved wife of John Smith, aged 42 years.

On the 26th instant, at her residence, Norton-street, Glebe Road, Lydia, the wife of Mr. Duncan M'Dougall, in the 25th year of her age.

On Thursday, December 27, at her parents' residence, Forbes-street, Marie Francoise Annaise Blanchard, aged 19 years.

## SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

STEAMERS for EXCURSIONS, Towing, or for any service in harbour or at sea, may be engaged at moderate rates, at the Phœnix Wharf.

WATSON'S BAY AND LITTLE MANLY BEACH.—DAILY.—The steamer VICTORIA leaves:—

| | a.m. | | p.m. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Phœnix Wharf ... | 9·30 | ... | |
| Circular Quay... ... | 10·15 | ... | 2·15 |
| Woolloomooloo ... | 10·30 | ... | 2·30 |
| Little Manly ... ... | 11·30 | ... | 6·0 |
| Watson's Bay... ... | 12 noon | ... | 6·30 |

STEAM TO BRIGHTON PIER, MANLY BEACH.—The PHANTOM, DAILY. Fares, ONE SHILLING.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Circular Quay to Brighton Pier | 10.15 | 2.15 | 6 0 |
| Woolloomooloo to ditto ditto ..... | 10.30 | 2 30 | 5.45 |
| MANLY to Sydney ..... | 8.15 | 12.0 | 5.0 |

NOTICE.—This steamer runs direct to the old established safe landing place, Brighton Pier.

PARRAMATTA STEAMERS.—Cheap Excursions.

STEAM to PARRAMATTA, ONE SHILLING.

The well-known steam packets plying between SYDNEY and PARRAMATTA convey passengers at the following rates and hours:—

From Parramatta..... 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 4 p.m.
From Sydney ..... 9 a.m., 1·15 p.m., 4 p.m.
And on SUNDAYS.
Leaving Sydney at 9 a.m., and returning at 4 p.m.

FARES:

Cabin .....1s. 6d. ... return tickets, 2s. 6d.
Steerage...1s. 0d. ... return tickets, 1s. 6d.

HUNTER'S HILL AMATEUR RAGATTA.—The steamer WILLIAMS (flagship), will leave the N. H. R. S. N. Company's Wharf at 10 a.m., returning at 6 p.m.

☞ Subscribers only will be admitted on board.

JULES JOUBERT, honorary secretary.

ILLAWARRA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMPACKETS TO
MERIMBULA, THIS NIGHT, at 11 o'clock.
WOLLONGONG and KIAMA, THIS NIGHT, 11 o'clock.
ULLADULLA, THIS NIGHT, at 11 o'clock.
CLYDE RIVER, on MONDAY, at noon.

H. R. N. S. N. CO.—STEAM to the HUNTER.—The CITY OF NEWCASTLE, TO-MORROW (Saturday) NIGHT, at 11 o'clock.

P. J. COHEN, manager.

Offices, foot of Market-street.

THE AUSTRALASIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S STEAMSHIPS TO MELBOURNE, calling at EDEN, TWOFOLD BAY.—WONGA WONGA, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, at 3.
EDEN, TWOFOLD BAY.—WONGA WONGA, WEDNESDAY, 3 p.m.
HUNTER RIVER.—COLLAROY, TO-NIGHT (FRIDAY), at 11.
CLARENCE TOWN STEAMER.—WEDNESDAY, 9th January, 11 p.m.
BRISBANE, calling at NEWCASTLE.—YARRA YARRA, WEDNESDAY, 10 a.m.
MARYBOROUGH, calling at NEWCASTLE.—WARATAH, TUESDAY, 8th January, at 10 p.m.
GLADSTONE and ROCKHAMPTON direct.—EAGLE, THIS AFTERNOON, FRIDAY, at 6.
FROM BRISBANE:
To IPSWICH.—The IPSWICH daily.
To MARYBOROUGH, GLADSTONE, and ROCKHAMPTON.—CLARENCE, TUESDAY, 1st and 15th January.

JAMES PATERSON, manager.

A. S. N. Co's Wharf, Sussex-street.

STEAM TO MELBOURNE.—Landing passengers at the Railway Pier.—The Intercolonial Royal Mail Company's Steamship VICTORY, 1000 tons, J. TOOGOOD, Commander, will be despatched on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at 3 p.m.

For freight or passage apply to Intercolonial Royal Mail Company.

SAMUEL CLARK, Manager.

Grafton Wharf.

STEAM to MERIMBULA in 18 hours.—The HUNTER, every FRIDAY, at 10 a.m. Fare, 30s.

STEAM to HONGKONG.—To sail on SATURDAY.—The splendid steamship GOVERNOR GENERAL will be despatched on SATURDAY, 29th instant, for the above port, and offers the only opportunity for Chinese passengers to reach China before the commencement of the China New Year.

For light freight or passage apply to MOLISON and BLACK, 4, Bridge-street.

FOR THE MANNING RIVER, the ESTHER. For freight or passage apply on board, Victoria Wharf.

FOR the MANNING RIVER.—The MARTHA, from the Commercial Wharf. Apply on board.

RICHMOND RIVER and PELICAN TREE.—The schooner BLACK DIAMOND, ROBERTSON, master, sails for the above in a few days. Apply to T. H. GREEN, Wharf, Bathurst-street.

FOR TWOFOLD BAY.—The clipper schooner ELLEN, will sail THIS DAY, December 28th.

For freight or passage apply on board, Commercial Wharf.

FOR THE MORUYA RIVER.—The DOVE, Manson, master, is now receiving cargo, and will sail on SATURDAY. For freight or passage apply to HENRY CLARKE, Victoria Wharf.

FIRST VESSEL FOR BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND.—The favourite regular trader VIXEN, W. BENNETT, commander, having a large portion of her cargo engaged, will sail in a few days.

For freight, &c., apply on board at the Flour Company's Wharf; or to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's Chambers.

FOR BRISBANE.—The DUKE OF WELLINGTON, loading at the Grafton Wharf. P. STEWART, agent.

FOR BRISBANE.—The JEANIE DOVE, now loading at Bathurst-street Wharf, and will clear TO-MORROW.

MOLISON and BLACK.

FIRST VESSEL FOR MELBOURNE WHARF.—The regular trader FORTUNE is now loading at Walker's Wharf, and having a large portion of her cargo engaged, only wants a few tons of light freight to fill up.

For freight or passage apply to MOLISON and BLACK, 4, Bridge-street.

FOR MELBOURNE WHARF.—The GOLDEN SPRING, now ready to receive cargo, at the Pacific Wharf, and will sail on SATURDAY. Apply on board; or WILLIAM WRIGHT, Druitt-street.

FOR MELBOURNE WHARF.—The NATIVE LASS, on SATURDAY first.

ANDERSON, CAMPBELL, and CO., Flour and Grain Wharf, King-street.

REGULAR LINE OF TRADERS TO MELBOURNE.—The NATIVE LASS, Captain PATON; MARY AND ROSE, Captain WILLIAMS, are both ready to receive cargo and will sail as soon as at all possible. ANDERSON, CAMPBELL, and CO., Flour and Grain Wharf, King-street.

FOR MELBOURNE.—☞ The clipper brig HARRIET HOPE, Captain SPAIN, having three-fourths of her cargo engaged, will be quickly despatched.

For freight, &c., apply to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's Chambers.

ONLY VESSEL for LAUNCESTON.—The LADY DENISON, J. M'KINLAY, commander, will sail in a few days.

For freight or passage, apply to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyds Chambers.

FOR ADELAIDE.—The regular trader BURNETT, FOREMAN, master, is ready to receive at the Victoria Wharf, and will be quickly despatched.

For freight or passage, apply on board; or, to MOLISON and BLACK, No. 4, Bridge-street.

FOR PORT COOPER direct.—The A1 twelve years iron clipper brig WINDHOVER, 220 tons register, R. WOODS, commander, having two-thirds of her cargo engaged, will be despatched for the above port in a few days.

Freight and passengers will be taken at moderate rates. Apply to J. J. PEACOCK.

ONLY VESSEL FOR WELLINGTON and PORT COOPER.—☞ The A1 regular trader DART, J. R. SOAPLEHORN, commander, clears at the Customs, THIS DAY. Shippers are particularly requested to complete their shipments, pass entries, and forward bills of lading for signature.

For freight or passage apply on board, at the Grafton Wharf; or to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's Chambers.

## SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR TARANAKI Direct.—The clipper Brig RIFLE, R. FIRTH, commander, under engagement to sail positively on the 1st January, 1861. No cargo will be received after TO-MORROW, the 29th Instant.

For freight or passage, apply on board, at the Grafton Wharf; or, to LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and CO., Lloyd's-chambers.

FOR PORT DE FRANCE, NEW CALEDONIA.—The A1 new clipper vessel WANDERING WAVE, 150 tons register, DE BEAUVAU-CRAON, commander, will meet with quick dispatch.

For freight or passage apply to LEVERRIER, CURCIER, and CO., 208, Lower George-street.

FOR JAVA.—The Dutch barque TRYNJE FENORA, 585 tons, now at Newcastle, is open to proceed with coals to Batavia or Sourabaya, for orders to discharge at one port of Java, as ordered.

Immediate application to be made to BUCHANAN, SKINNER, and CO.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO direct.—The A1 clipper ship ELECTRA, 900 tons burthen, H. COURTENAY CAYZER, commander, is detained by charterers until the 1st proximo. A few berths in the saloon still disengaged, for rates of which, and light freight only,

Apply on board, at Macnamara's Wharf; or, to GEORGE A. LLOYD and CO., Lloyd's Chambers, George-street.

FOR HONGKONG.—The A1 ship LADY MACDONALD, 678 tons, will sail on or about the 15th proximo.

For freight, or passage apply to Captain BRUMELL, on board; BUCHANAN, SKINNER, and CO.; or MOLISON and BLACK.

FOR HONGKONG.—The fine clipper, OSNABRUCK, Captain D. WOLFE, will SAIL on or about 5th January. Has good accommodation for passengers.

For freight or passage apply on board, at Macnamara's Wharf.

FOR MANILA.—The A1 American ship S. H. TALBOT will sail on the 1st January, 1861. Has first-rate accommodations for first-class passengers.

For passengers and light freight, apply to ROBERT D. MERRILL, agent.

FIRST SHIP for LONDON.—The A1 clipper ship WAVE OF LIFE, 1000 tons, CHARLES STUART, commander, having all her dead weight and nearly the whole of her wool on board and down, will sail positively on the 5th January, 1861; has still three poop cabins disengaged.

App. y to Captain STUART, on board, off Circular Quay; or to MONTEFIORE, GRAHAM, and CO.

TO FOLLOW the WAVE OF LIFE.—For LONDON direct.—The A1 Aberdeen clipper ship OMAR PASHA, 1100 tons, JOHN THOMSON, commander, having nearly the whole of her cargo engaged, will have immediate dispatch. Passengers are reminded of the very superior saloon accommodation of this vessel, and an early inspection is invited.

Apply to Captain THOMSON, on board, at Circular Quay; or to MONTEFIORE, GRAHAM, and CO.

FIRST SHIP FOR LONDON.—Having the whole of her cargo engaged, will meet with quick despatch, the A1 clipper ship LOCHIEL, R. HADDON, commander. Has two side cabins in the poop disengaged (none but first-class passengers taken), and carries an experienced surgeon.

For further particulars apply to the Captain, on board, in the Cove; or to FLOWER, SALTING, and CO., agents, 31, Hunter-street.

BLACK BALL and EAGLE LINES of BRITISH and AUSTRALIAN PACKETS.—For LIVERPOOL direct.—The magnificent clipper-ship LIGHTNING, 2090 tons register, JAMES CLARK, commander, to sail from Melbourne, TUESDAY, 1st January, 1861!

The celebrated clipper-ship LIGHTNING, will sail from Melbourne, for Liverpool, on the above date, and affords a most favourable opportunity for parties intending to visit Europe. The passages to and fro of the Lightning have always been marked by great rapidity and regularity; and her famous run of sixty-three days from Melbourne to Liverpool stands conspicuous as the fastest passage on record made by a sailing vessel. In addition to her great sailing qualities, the passenger accommodation of the Lightning is unrivalled. She has a magnificent flush deck, with a clear sweep of nearly 250 feet, affording a most delightful promenade.

The Saloon is elegantly fitted up, and the state-rooms are large, well ventilated, and furnished with every convenience and comfort.

The Second Cabin is arranged on the latest improvements, and will be found worth inspection.

The 'tween Decks are unusually lofty, very roomy, and well ventilated throughout.

The dietary scale is very liberal, and provisions only of the very best quality are supplied.

An experienced surgeon accompanies the ship. A good band will be provided. A stewardess is appointed to attend on lady passengers.

Rate of Passage.—Saloon, £55; second cabin, £30, third cabin, £20 to £18; steerage, £16.

Apply to THACKER, DANIELL, and CO., O'Connell-street, Sydney; or BRIGHT, BROTHERS, and CO., Melbourne.

FOR FREIGHT OR CHARTER.—The remarkably fast-sailing, British clipper ship ELLEN BADFORD, A1 10 years, 386 tons per register, P. WAKEN, commander, having her ballast on board is ready to proceed on any voyage.

W. H. ELDRED.

FOR FREIGHT or CHARTER.—The first-class clipper barque LION, 280 tons burthen, WILLIAM SINCLAIR, commander, now open for freight or charter. The Lion is completely fitted up for stock, and has just returned from a voyage to Otago, New Zealand, where she delivered her cargo in good order, the whole voyage occupying only thirty days.

Apply to Captain SINCLAIR, on board, or to JAMES MALCOLM, senior.

FOR SALE, a bargain, a five-ton YACHT, in first-rate order, coppered and copper-fastened, with full suit of sails, and well found in gear, anchors, cable, flags, sweeps, &c., together with a capital dingy and paddles, price £50 cash. Apply to Mr. GOOLD, bookseller and stationer, corner of Pitt and King streets.

A NEW 18 feet SKIFF, variished and timbers notched in. Price, complete, £15. Market Wharf.

WOOLLOOMOOLOO BAY REGATTA.—A Meeting of the committee will be held at the Committee Rooms, TO-MORROW (Saturday) EVENING, at half-past 7 o'clock. All persons having subscription lists are particularly desired to attend.

THOMAS HILL, hon. secretary.

WOOLLOOMOOLOO BAY REGATTA.—All persons having CLAIMS against the Committee of the above, are desired to send in their ACCOUNTS under cover, to the Secretary, 109, King-street, on or before MONDAY, the 31st instant

THOMAS HILL, hon. secretary.

MANLY BEACH, MANLY BEACH, MANLY BEACH.—NEW YEAR'S DAY.—The public are informed that a variety of Amusements will take place at the above place, Mr. BIRCH'S, New Brighton Hotel, in a Booth, near to the New Brighton Hotel. The amusements will consist of a grand wrestling match for several prizes, a wheelbarrow race blindfold, jumping in a bag, climbing the greasy pole for a new hat, a race for a pig with a greased tail, and a variety of other amusements too numerous to mention.

A Gentleman will be in attendance that will wrestle any man in New South Wales for the sum of fifty or one hundred pounds.

P.S.—Also, a Donkey Race, the last one to be the winner.

G. BIRCH, proprietor.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Pitt-street.—On SUNDAY EVENING next, December 30th, a SERMON by the Rev. W. CUTHBERTSON, A.B. Subject: "Another Year."

NEWTOWN BAZAAR.—The whole of the articles will be SOLD on SATURDAY, at 3 o'clock, by auction, without any reserve.

NEWTOWN CRICKET CLUB.—A MEETING of the Members of the above Club will be held THIS EVENING, at the usual time and place. S. RABONE, secretary.

SYDNEY MECHANICS' SCHOOL OF ARTS.—Members' TICKETS for the year 1861 are now ready.

SCHOOL OF ARTS.—Persons wishing to become Members are advised that the present forms a favourable opportunity for joining. Terms of subscription to Reading Room, Library, &c.—£1 per annum.

SCHOOL OF ARTS.—DEBATE, THIS EVENING, "What is Education?"

THE TURKISH BATH, Spring-street, RE-OPENED, and will be conducted as usual.

HOT and COLD LUNCHEONS, Made Dishes. City Wine Vaults, George-street. JAMES SIMPSON.

THE NEW ARGYLE ROOM, South Head Road.—A Plain DRESS BALL on FRIDAY, December 28th; dancing to commence at 8 o'clock, terminate at 3. On MONDAY, December 31st, a GRAND BALL; dancing to commence at 8 o'clock, 1860, terminate at 3 o'clock, 1861. Gentlemen, 5s.; ladies, 2s. 6d.; refreshment ticket included. A GRAND BALL MASQUE, on FRIDAY, January 4th, 1861. Further particulars will be given. Mr. CROWE'S Quadrille Band has been engaged for the season.

## PERSONS ADVERTISED FOR.

CHRISTIANA GOMAN, of East Maitland, send your address to Mrs. ADCOCK, Gabo Island, via Twofold Bay.

MATTHEW CAHILL—who came per ship Harriet—WRITE to your sister and brother. Address, care of Willis, Merry, and Co., Church-hill, Sydney.

JOHN CONLON.—Please CALL at H. S. GIBSON'S, 402, Castlereagh-street, near Liverpool-street.

THE WIFE of PATRICK K. DOHERTY, a blacksmith and old pensioner, is hereby informed that her husband died lately in Queensland, and that by communicating with Mr. JOHN SMITH, Mortimer-street, Ipswich, she will hear of something to her advantage.

RICHARD BRIDGE APPLEFORD, of Coggeshall, Essex.—Intelligence from his Father is lying at this office.

ROBERT HETHERINGTON, write to E. H., Herald Office.

HUNTER'S HILL AMATEUR REGATTA.
1st January, 1861.
COMMITTEE.
WILLIAM WRIGHT, Esq. (President).

| | |
|---|---|
| Messrs. A. Campbell | Messrs. C. Manning |
| G. Phillips | R. M. Pearson |
| H Brown | F. G. Campbell |
| C. Jeanneret | J. Joubert. |

C. E. ROBINSON, Esq. (Umpire).

1st Match.—11 o'clock.—All four-oared gigs, pulled by gentlemen amateurs. From flagship round Cockatoo, round flagboat off Five Dock, back to flagship. Entrance, 40s. Prize, four silver cups.

2nd Match.—Half-past 11 o'clock.—"Gentlemen Amateurs," under 17, residents of Parramatta or Lane Cove River, pair of oars and coxswain. Course, from flagship round Spectacle Island and back. Entrance, 10s. Prize, two watches.

3rd Match.—12 o'clock.—All wager skiffs pulled by gentlemen amateurs. Course, from flagship round Spectacle Island, round flagboat off Five Dock, back to flagship. Entrance, £1. Prize, silver sculls.

☞ Quarter-past 12 o'clock.—A match open to all yachts (centre-board boats excluded), fore and aft sails only, mainsails on deck. Course, from flagship round flagboat off Five Dock, round Cockatoo Island, round flagboat again, and back to flagship. No entrance. Prize, a flag worked and presented by the ladies of Hunter's Hill.

4th Match.—Half-past 12 o'clock.—Skiffs, built and classed as waterman's skiffs, pulled by gentlemen amateurs, pair of oars and coxswain. Course, from flagship round Spectacle Island, round flag-boat off Five Dock back to flagship. Entrance £1. Prize, two pieces of plate.

5th Match.—Half-past 1 o'clock.—Pulling dingies under canvas—all boats belonging to residents on Parramatta and Lane Cove Rivers. From flagship round flagboat off Five Dock, round Spectacle Island, back to flagship. Entrance, £1. Prize, a piece of plate.

6th Match.—2 o'clock.—For all gentlemen amateurs, under age, in dingies—pair of sculls. Round flag boat and back. Entrance, £1. Prize, a flower stand.

7th Match.—Half-past 2 o'clock.—Skiffs built and classed as waterman's skiffs, under canvas—all boats belonging to residents on Parramatta or Lane Cove Rivers. From flagship round a boat off Five Dock, round Cockatoo Island, and back to flagship. Entrance, £1. Prize, cup, value £12 12s.

8th Match.—3 o'clock.—For all gentlemen amateurs, pulling a pair of sculls, in skiffs built and classed as waterman's skiffs. Course same as No. 2. Entrance, 10s. 6d. Prize, a cup

9th Match.—Half-past 3 o'clock.—Tub race, open to all gentlemen amateurs in bona fide round tubs, one paddle. Course, from Mr. Jannere's Wharf to flagship. Prize, a gold pencil case.

10th Match.—4 o'clock.—Open to all skiffs built and classed as waterman's skiffs under canvas, the bona-fide property of gentlemen amateurs. Same course as No. 7. Entrance, £1. Prize, cup, value 15 guineas. N.B.—six entrances or no race.

11th Match.—Half-past 4 o'clock.—Gig and dingy chase. Entrance, 2s. 6d. Prize, £2 2s.

REGULATIONS OF THE REGATTA.

Three entrances or no race.

Racing boats will round the flag-boat and other marks, keeping the same on the starboard hand.

Sailing boats may carry what sail they please, and will not be allowed to use oars, or throw ballast overboard after starting. Water ballast to be fresh.

Boats on the port tack to beat up for boats on the starboard tack. Boats running free to keep away for boats on a wind. Any boat fouling another to be distanced.

Each boat to have a distinguishing flag to be named on entering, and kept up during the race.

Sailing boats (except yachts) to come to starting mast down, and bowsprits unshipped. No lee-boards.

No outriggers allowed except in the wager skiffs.

A distinguishing flag will be hoisted on board the flagship to denote the race about to commence, viz.:—

First Race.—No. 1, Marryat, and so on.

A gun fired for starting, when the flag will be lowered down.

Disputes will be made known to the umpire after the race; his decision to be final.

All boats coming in to pass between the flagship and the Hunter's Hill Wharf.

No boats to be made fast to the flagship, unless for the service of umpire and committee.

Subscribers only allowed on board the flagship by a ticket signed by the secretary.

The umpire will have power of rejecting any unfair boats, irrespective of entrances.

No boats shall start unless their entrance is paid.

A refreshment booth will be erected on shore opposite the flagship.

A luncheon will be provided. Tickets obtainable on board the flagship.

☞ Parties wishing to have fruit, cake, or other stalls on the Hunter's Hill Wharf, must apply immediately. None will be allowed without the sanction of the committee.

JULES JOUBERT, honorary secretary.

HUNTER'S HILL AMATEUR REGATTA, NEW YEAR'S DAY.—Entrances for the above will be received on SATURDAY, 29th instant, between 3 and 5 p.m., at the City Wine Vaults, George-street, opposite Jamison-street. ☞ It is to be strictly understood that no entrances will be received after the hour above named.

JULES JOUBERT, hon. secretary.

BAND FOR ARTILLERY AND RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.—The various Companies of Volunteer Artillery and Rifles having been now duly organised in Sydney and the suburbs, the undermentioned gentlemen have been appointed a committee for the formation of a BAND in connection therewith. Subscriptions are therefore invited in aid of the purchase of instruments and other necessary expenses, and the committee trust that the spirit which has influenced the members in so readily uniting for the common good, may be met by the public generally with an equally liberal spirit.

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| Captains J. M'Lean, J.P. | Messrs. M. Fitzpatrick |
| W. C. Still | M. Consett Stephen |
| A. G. M'Lean | H. B. Garrett |
| R. P. Raymond | William Teale |
| C. W. Eastwood | R. L. Robey |
| W. Harbottle | William Kemp |
| J. Dawson | C. Lamb |
| J. E. Fairfax | F. C. Brewer |
| S. Lyons | O. B. Ebsworth |
| H. A. Severn | T. Richards |
| W. H. Goodlet | R. W. M. Johnson |
| W. C. Windeyer, M.P. | E. O. Heywood |
| Messrs. W. A. Hunt | E. C. Shaw |
| W. P. Cowlishaw | J. E. Macarthy, |
| J. H. Palmer | George Thornton |
| W. Penn | W. Dymock |
| J. Hawkesbury | J. G. Catley |
| H. W. Strong | M. M. Campbell |
| C. H. Atkinson | C. Prince. |
| C. Wilson | |

By order. WILLIAM FORDE, honorary secretary.

THERE WILL BE A GENERAL MEETING of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies of VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY, on THURSDAY, the third day of January, 1861, at 4 o'clock p.m., at Dawes' Point. Gentlemen are requested to come in uniform, with red striped trousers. By order of the Commandant, E. NASMYTH, Acting Adjutant.

MOUNTED RIFLES.—Squadron DRILL THIS EVENING, and every evening next week, except Tuesday.

AUSTRALIAN GAS LIGHT COMPANY.—COAL AND CARTAGE.—TENDERS will be received at this office until noon of WEDNESDAY, the 9th January next, for the supply of such quantities of COAL as may be required by this Company, from 1st February to 31st December, 1861.

The prices of screened and small coal to be stated separately.

The Tenders also to specify the rate per ton for delivery on board; for carriage from Newcastle or Morpeth to the wharf of the Gas Works, Darling Harbour; or for both of these services combined, at the option of the party tendering.

Terms of payment—cash on delivery.

Tenders, addressed to the Secretary, to be endorsed "Tender for Coal," or, "Tender for Conveyance of Coal."

The Company do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Any information required may be obtained on application to the Company's Engineer, at the Gas Works.

R. MANSFIELD, secretary.

Company's Offices, 27th December.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE.—Director and Stage Manager, Mr. Joseph Rayner.
Great success of the Pantomime,
The performance will commence with
CHARLES THE SECOND; or,
THE MERRY MONARCH;
and conclude with the new burlesque and comic pantomime, with entirely new and beautiful scenery, dresses, and mechanical effects, entitled the PILGRIM OF LOVE, or Harlequin Prince Hamed, the Talking Cockatoo, and the Enchanted Horse.

Characters in the burlesque:—Miss F. Morgan, Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. C. Jones, Mr. J. Rayner, Mr. C. Burford, and Mr S. Howard.

In the pantomime:—Harlequin, Mr. H. Leopold; Pantaleon, Mr. G. Leopold; Clown, Mr. T. Leopold; Columbine, the fascinating Fraulein Fanule.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—TO-NIGHT.
Mr. W. STEPHENS'S highly successful entertainment
WHERE I WENT AND WHAT I SAW.
Part I.
with new Songs, Anecdotes, &c.
Mr. HARRY HOUDIN'S great POLYNATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT.
Miss RAYMOND'S new Ballads.
Mr. MARMADUKE WILSON'S new Overture and brilliant Morceaux on the piano.
Reserved seats, 3s.; front seats, 2s.; back ditto, 1s.

AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY.—LAST NIGHT of Mr. FARQUHARSON'S grand Christmas Entertainment.

MR. FARQUHARSON will give an entire CHANGE of PROGRAMME, THIS EVENING.

MR. FARQUHARSON will sing the favourite Buffo song entitled Blue Beard, THIS EVENING.

PRINCE OF WALES CONCERT HALL open TO-NIGHT. Entrance through the Upper Circle of the late Theatre. The great MACKNEY, unrivalled in negro delineation; J. HOWSON, Leveson, Thompson, Madame Lamouxeux, J. Hetherington.

NEW YEAR'S BALL.—Mr. J. CLARK begs to announce that his Annual NEW YEAR'S BALL will take place at his Assembly Rooms, Elizabeth-street North, on MONDAY, 31st Instant.

COMPLIMENTARY BALL to Mr. W. CLARK, THIS EVENING, at Mr. J. Clark's Room, Elizabeth-st.

COMPLIMENTARY BALL to Mr. W. CLARK.—Any tickets remaining unsold by the Committee, to be forwarded under cover to the Secretary, by 5 o'clock, THIS EVENING, at Mr. Clark's Rooms, Elizabeth-street.

COMPLIMENTARY BALL to Mr. W. CLARK, tendered by his pupils on his departure from Sydney, to be held THIS (Friday) EVENING, at the rooms of Mr. John Clark, Elizabeth-street. A few tickets still to be obtained from any member of the committee, till 4 p.m.

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| Mr. W. G. Whiting | Mr. F. M'Martin |
| H. W. Bradford | Thomas Hill |
| R. M'Phee | W. Holt |
| T. Y. Harle | J. T. Gray |
| D. Wiley | T. Baird |
| W. Smith | |

G. B. MASON, hon. sec.

MR. W. KING'S Monthly Quadrille ASSEMBLY, at the Royal Polytechnic, on TUESDAY EVENING.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—The school will re-open on MONDAY, January 28th, 1861.
W. J. STEPHENS, Head Master.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Free Education.—The Examination for Scholarships will commence WEDNESDAY, January 30th, 1861. All necessary information respecting qualifications of candidates and subjects of examination will be afforded to persons applying to Mr. BLACKMORE, south wing Grammar School, Hyde Park, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. each day.
W. J. STEPHENS, Head Master.

MONTAGUE HOUSE, 15, Church-hill, Sydney, private Boarding Establishment, for families and gentlemen.

MR. J. EMANUEL, senior, Dentist (established in Sydney, 1842), George-st., one door North King-st.

MR. ESKELL, Surgeon-Dentist, 21, Hunter-street.

POST OFFICE, botany Road.—W. WEST, Agent for the SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, and MAIL. Early and punctual delivery.

SPIRIT STORES.—REGISTRATIONS by the 1st proximo. C. DELOHERY, Park-st., near George-st.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS (late Pritchard and Williams), Auctioneer, Broker, and General Produce Agent, foot of Market-street, Sydney.

WILLINGTON is making a Shipment of Parcels to Pickford and Co.'s, per the Wave of Life, for the United Kingdom, New York, and the Continent of Europe. Small parcels, 1s. 148, Prince-street, Sydney.

£40,000 TO LEND.—£10,000 to lend on mortgages, or on properties for sale; £500 to lend in any amount. The above in one or any sums. R. FORBES, 78 King-street

MONEY.—To Gentlemen holding Government or other permanent appointments, Officers in the United Service.—The advertiser, who is acting for executors, will advance immediately, on personal security, for short periods, sums varying from £25 to £150. The advantages offered are, prompt replies to applications, low rate of interest, and the strictest confidence in all cases. Apply in the first instance by letter, to A. O., Box No. 239, Post Office, Sydney.

A RESPECTABLE Young MAN wants EMPLOYMENT, in any country situation, where he can make himself generally useful. Wages no object; good references. Address W., at C. T. Sandon's, 318, George-st.

A RESPECTABLE young MAN, who has had considerable experience in England and the colony in the wholesale and retail grocery business, also in a mercantile establishment, is desirous of obtaining a SITUATION of trust, behind a counter, or in a mercantile office as SALESMAN. The highest references can be produced and security if required. Address SALESMAN, Herald Office.

A HOUSEMAID WANTED. Apply to Mrs. MOFFITT, 227, Pitt-street.

BOOKKEEPING, by an experienced Accountant—Evenings and Saturday afternoons disengaged. T. J. S., Herald Office

BLACKSMITH WANTED for a Station.—He must be able to shoe horses and have good references. A man with a family not objected to. For particulars apply to TUCKER and CO., 288, George-street.

COACHMAN.—Wanted, a Coachman; if married, Wife as Laundress. None but steady competent persons need apply. JOHN HOSKING, Office, Pitt-street North.

CARRIERS WANTING LOADING for the Southern or Western Roads, are advised to call at the Transit Depot, No. 60, New Pitt-street, near the Exchange. R. R. RANDOLPH.

CATTLE STATION.—An experienced person among cattle, having about £1000 to invest, can hear of a HALF SHARE in a cattle station for sale, in Queensland. Address Box 34 Post Office, Sydney.

KENTIDGE.—Wanted to purchase a few tons. BUYERS and LEARMONTH, Charlotte-place.

TEAMS WANTED for Bathurst. JOHN WATKINS, George-street.

LOADING, for Orange, Bolaro, Lower Turon—all heavy. E. CHAPMAN and CO., 90, Clarence-st.

LAW.—WANTED, a steady competent managing LAW CLERK, to whom the highest salary and constant employment will be given. Apply personally to Mr. MOFFAT, solicitor, 370, George-street, Sydney.

MORNING GOVERNESS wanted, at the commencement of the year, to educate the young Ladies of a family, from twelve to nineteen years of age. The usual branches of an English education, with good writing and French, are indispensable. None but thoroughly competent persons need apply, and no appointment will be made until the close of the year. An accomplished lady would receive a good salary. Apply, by letter only, to S. E. M., Herald Office.

MAN SERVANT Wanted. Apply to R. W. MOORE, Queen's Wharf.

NEWTOWN.—Wanted, to TAKE or LET, two Unfurnished ROOMS. Also several articles of FURNITURE to be DISPOSED of, by private hand. Apply No. 1, Randle's Cottages, Newtown.

PROFESSED COOK.—A Frenchman is open for an Engagement. Address T. D. L., Herald Office.

RESIDENT or DAILY GOVERNESS.—A Lady is desirous to re-engage as above. Having been educated partly in France, she will give instruction (to finishing pupils or others) in music, Italian, French, drawing, and flower painting, with English; references unexceptionable. Address S. S., care of Messrs. Johnson and Co., Music Warehouse, Pitt-street.

TO SHIPMASTERS and others having a late Edition of "Horsburgh" with or without charts. Apply, stating price, to R. S., Herald Office.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, a Young LADY for the fancy department. None but good saleswomen need apply. Waterloo House, 235, Pitt-street.

TO SQUATTERS AND STATION MASTERS.—Wanted, by the advertiser a SITUATION as STOREKEEPER; has been accustomed to the management of stock in England, from whence he has just arrived. Apply to F. C., Mr. Loveday's, South Creek, St. Mary's.

IN THE Assigned Estate of W. TREE, 2nd and final DIVIDEND of four shillings and threepence in the £ on the estate will be payable at the office of W. LOVE, 364, George-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th instant.

Creditors will please bring their promissory notes.

ALEXANDER M'ARTHUR, W. LOVE, Trustees.

IN THE ASSIGNED ESTATE of MOSES MASS, Goulburn.—To enable the Trustees to declare a first dividend, it is requested that all particulars of CLAIMS be forwarded to them at the office, of Messrs. H. Moss and Co., Wynyard-lane, on or before the 31st current.

MOSES MOSS, J. B. HOLDSWORTH, Trustees.

December 24th.

THE DRUNKEN CARTER that lost his Baker's Basket and two Sacks, near Rose Bay, Christmas Eve, can have them by paying this advertisement. Apply Mr. G. EVANS, 9, Hutchinson-street, Surry Hills.

WILL be PUBLISHED, early in February next, the first number of the TENTERFIELD CHRONICLE AND NORTHERN MINING JOURNAL.

The proprietors have much pleasure in informing the Sydney public that the TENTERFIELD CHRONICLE, as an advertising medium, will necessarily enjoy advantages unsurpassed by any other provincial journal in the colony, from its contiguity to the northern gold-fields, and the large amount of its guaranteed circulation in the following important localities, viz.:—Dundee, Maryland, Glen Innis, Armidale, Timbarra, Tabulam, Tooloom, Boono Boono, Rocky River, and Bingara.

MORRESSY and RITCHIE, proprietors.

Mr. ARTHUR CURITT, sole agent for Sydney, is authorised to receive advertisements and subscriptions.

JAMES CLINTON respectfully begs to inform his friends and former patrons that he will resume business, as FAMILY BUTCHER, on SATURDAY, 29th. Having made arrangements that will enable him to supply meat of the best quality, he feels satisfied that those who honour him with their patronage will continue it. 44, William-street, Woolloomooloo.

TO TEACHERS.—The Furniture and Goodwill of a large SCHOOL situated near Sydney, conducted on the National principle, to be disposed of. Apply by letter, to A. B., Herald Office.

CALCUTTA.—The undersigned is prepared to CHARTER a first-class Ship for CALCUTTA direct, to sail within a month, or can ensure eight cabin passengers to any vessel being laid on for that port.

F. GARLAND MYLREA, Exchange.

MANILA COFFEE.—Fine sample, landing this day ex Neptune, for SALE by F. GARLAND MYLREA, Exchange.

SHANGHAI SILK for Coats, &c., just landed, and for SALE by F. GARLAND MYLREA, Exchange.

SOUTH SEA ISLAND ARROWROOT, highly dressed, quite equal to West India, now landing, ex Tisandra, from Tahiti, in 50 lb. bags, at 4½d. per lb. H. S. BIRD, Circular Quay.

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.—Cheap and expeditious PRINTING. E. MASON, Parramatta.

FAMILIES VISITING ENGLAND will find all the comforts of a home at the Berners Hotel, Berners-street, London.

J. F. HOLLIS, Tailor and Draper, 277, George-street, opposite Hunter-street.

MOSS.—REMOVING from 27 to 5, Hunter-st., next to Hebson and Whiting, third door from George-st.

MONTAGUE HOUSE, 15, Church-hill, Sydney, private Boarding Establishment, for families and gentlemen.

MR. J. EMANUEL, senior, Dentist (established in Sydney, 1842), George-st., one door North King-st.

MR. ESKELL, Surg

# HUNTED DOWN.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

IN TWO PORTIONS. PORTION THE FIRST.

I.

Most of us see some romance in life. My capacity as Chief-Manager of a Life Assurance Office, I think I have, within the last thirty years, seen more romances than the generality of men, however uncommoning the opportunity may at first seem to be. [illegible]

As I have retired, and live at my ease, I possess the means that I failed to want of considering what I have seen at leisure. My experiences have a more remarkable aspect, so reviewed, than they had when they were in progress. I have come home from the Play now, and can recall the scenes of the Drama upon which the curtain has fallen, free from the glare, bewilderment, and bustle of the Theatre.

Let me relate one of these Romances of the real world.

There is nothing true (I believe) than physiognomy taken in connexion with manner. The art of reading that book of which Eternal Wisdom obliges every human creature to present his or her own page with the individual character written on it, is a difficult one, perhaps, and is little studied. It may require some natural aptitude, and it must require (for everything does) some patience and some pains. That, these are not usually given, to it—that, numbers of people accept a few stock common-place expressions of face as the whole list of characteristics, and neither seek nor recognise the refinements that are truest—that You, for instance, give a great deal of time and attention to the reading of music, Greek, Latin, French, Italian, Hebrew, if you please, and do not qualify yourself to read the face of the master or mistress looking over your shoulder teaching it to you—I assume to be five hundred times more probable than improbable. Perhaps some little self-sufficiency may be at the bottom of this; facial expression requires no study from you, you think; it comes by nature to you to know enough about it, and you are not to be taken in.

I confess, for my part, that I have been taken in, over and over and over again. I have been taken in by acquaintances, and I have been taken in (of course) by friends; far oftener by friends than by any other class of persons. How came I to be so deceived? Had I quite misread their faces? No. Believe me, my first impression of those people, founded on face and manner alone, was invariably true. My mistake was in suffering them to come nearer to me, and explain themselves away.

II.

The partition which separated my own office from our general outer office, in the City, was of thick plate glass. I could see through it what passed in the outer office, without hearing a word. I had had it put up, in place of a wall that had been there for years—ever since the house was built. It is no matter whether I did or did not make the change, in order that I might derive my first impression of strangers who came to us on business, from their faces alone, without being influenced by anything they said. Enough to mention that I turned my glass partition to that account, and that a life assurance office is at all times exposed to be practised upon by the most crafty and cruel of the human race.

It was through my glass partition that I first saw the gentleman whose story I am going to tell.

He had come in without my observing it, and had put his hat and umbrella on the broad counter, and was bending over to take some papers from one of the clerks. He was about forty or so, dark, exceedingly well dressed in black—being in mourning—and the hand he extended with a polite air, had a particularly well-fitting black kid glove upon it. His hair, which was elaborately brushed and oiled, was parted straight up the middle, and he presented this parting to the clerk, exactly (to my thinking) as if he had said, in so many words: "You must take me, if you please, my friend, just as I show myself. Come straight up here, follow the gravel path, keep off the grass, I allow no trespassing."

I conceived a very great aversion to that man, the moment I thus saw him.

He had asked for some of our printed forms, and the clerk was giving them to him, and explaining them. An obliged and agreeable smile was on his face, and his eyes met those of the clerk with a sprightly look. (I have known a vast quantity of nonsense talked about bad men not looking you in the face. Don't trust that conventional idea. Dishonesty will stare honesty out of countenance, any day in the week, if there is anything to be got by it.)

I saw, in the corner of his eyelash, that he became aware of my looking at him. Immediately he turned the parting in his hair towards the glass partition, as if he said to me with a sweet smile, "Straight up here, if you please. Off the grass."

In a few moments he had put on his hat and taken up his umbrella, and was gone.

I beckoned the clerk into my room, and asked, "Who was that?"

He had the gentleman's card in his hand. "Mr. Julius Slinkton, Middle Temple."

"A barrister, Mr. Adams?"

"I think not, sir."

"I should have thought him a clergyman, but for his having no Reverend, here," said I.

"Probably from his appearance," Mr. Adams replied, "he is reading for orders."

I should mention that he wore a dainty white cravat, and dainty linen altogether.

"What did he want, Mr. Adams?"

"Merely a form of proposal, sir, and a form of reference."

"Recommended here? Did he say?"

"Yes; he said he was recommended here by a friend of yours. He noticed you, but said that as he had not the pleasure of your personal acquaintance he would not trouble you."

"Did he know my name?"

"Oh yes, sir! He said, 'There is Mr. Sampson, I see.'"

"A well-spoken gentleman, apparently?"

"Remarkably so, sir."

"Insinuating manners, apparently?"

"Very much so, indeed, sir."

"Hah!" said I. "I want nothing at present, Mr. Adams."

Within a fortnight of that day, I went to dine with a friend of mine—a merchant, a man of taste, who buys pictures and books; and the first person I saw among the company was Mr. Julius Slinkton. There he was, standing before the fire, with good large eyes and an open expression of face; but still (I thought) requiring everybody to come at him by the prepared way he offered, and by no other.

I noticed him ask my friend to introduce him to Mr. Sampson, and my friend did so. Mr. Slinkton was very happy to see me. Not too happy; there was no overdoing the matter; happy in a thoroughly well-bred, perfectly unmeaning way.

"I thought you had met," our host observed.

"No," said Mr. Slinkton. "I did look in at Mr. Sampson's office, on your recommendation; but I really did not feel justified in troubling Mr. Sampson himself, on a visit within the every day routine of his business."

I said I thought he had been glad to show him any civility on my account.

"I am sure of that," said he, "I am much obliged. At another time, perhaps, I may be less delicate. Only, however, if I have real business; for I know, Mr. Sampson, how precious business time is, and what a vast number of imperticnent people there are in the world."

I knew he judged his counsellor with a slight bow, in this delicate way, of offering a policy on your life.

"Oh dear me! I am afraid I am not so proud as that, if you pay me the compliment of supposing me to be Mr. Sampson—merely as required for a friend. But you know what friends are, in such matters!" Nothing may ever come of it." I have the greatest reluctance to trouble men of business with inquiries for friends, knowing the probabilities to be a thousand to one that the friends will never follow them up. People are so fickle, so selfish, so inconsiderate. Don't you, in your business, and then so every day, Mr. Sampson?"

I was going to give a qualified answer (but he turned his speech, while parting on me, with his "Straight up here, if you please," and I answered, "Yes" [illegible]

"I hear, Mr. Sampson," he resumed, presently, for our friend had a new cook, and dinner was not so punctual as usual, "that your profession has recently suffered a great loss."

"In money?" said I.

He laughed at my ready association of loss with money, and replied, "No; in talent and vigour."

Not at once following out his allusion, I considered for a moment. "*Hey* it sustained a loss of that kind?" said I. "I was not aware of it."

"Understand me, Mr. Sampson. I don't imagine that you have retired. It is not so bad as that. But Mr. Meltham——"

"Oh, to be sure!" said I. "Yes! Mr. Meltham, the young actuary of the Incomprehensible?"

"Just so," he returned, in a consoling way.

"He is a great loss. He was it once the most profound, the most original, and the most energetic man I have ever known connected with Life Assurance."

I spoke strongly; for I had a high esteem and admiration for Meltham, and my gentleman had indefinitely conveyed to me some suspicion that he wanted to sneer at him. He recalled me to my guard, by presenting that trite pathway up his head, with its infernal, "Not on the grass, if you please—the gravel!"

"You knew Meltham, Mr. Slinkton?"

"Only by reputation. To have known him as an acquaintance, or as a friend, is an honour I should have sought, if he had remained in society—though I might never have had the good fortune to attain it, being a man of far inferior mark. He was scarcely above thirty, I suppose?"

"About thirty."

"Ah!" He sighed in this former consoling way. "What creatures we are! To break up, Mr. Sampson, and become incapable of business at that time of life!—Any reason assigned for the melancholy fact?"

("Humph!" thought I, as I looked at him. "But I WON'T go up the track, and I WILL go on the grass.")

"What reason have you heard assigned, Mr. Slinkton?" I asked, point blank.

"Most likely, false one. You know what Rumour is, Mr. Sampson. I never repeat what I hear; it is the only way of paring the nails and shaving the head of Rumour. But, when you ask me what reason I have heard assigned for Mr. Meltham's passing away from among men, it is another thing. I am not gratifying idle gossip, then! I was told, Mr. Sampson, that Mr. Meltham had relinquished all his avocations and all his prospects, because he was, in fact, broken-hearted. A disappointed attachment, I heard—though it hardly seems probable, in the case of a man so distinguished and so attractive."

"Attractions and distinctions are no armour against death," said I.

"Oh! She died? Pray, pardon me. I did not hear that. That, indeed, makes it very sad. Poor Mr. Meltham! She died?... Ah, dear me! Lamentable, lamentable!"

I still thought his pity not quite genuine, and I still suspected an unaccountable sneer under all this, until he said, as we were parted, like the other knots of talkers, by the announcement of dinner.

"Mr. Sampson, you are surprised to see me so moved, on behalf of a man whom I have never known. I am not so disinterested as you may suppose. I myself have suffered, and recently too, from death. I have lost one of two charming nieces, who were my constant companions. She died young—barely three-and-twenty—and even her remaining sister is far from strong. The world is a grave."

He said this with deep feeling, and I felt reproached for the coldness of my manner. Coldness and distrust had been engendered in me, I knew, by my bad experiences; they were not natural to me, and I often thought how much I had lost in life, losing trustfulness, and how little I had gained, gaining hard caution. This state of mind being habitual to me, I troubled myself more about this conversation than I might have troubled myself about a greater matter. I listened to his talk afterwards, and observed how readily other men responded to it, and with what a graceful instinct he adapted his subjects to the knowledge and habits of those he talked with. As, in talking with me, he had easily started the subject I might be supposed to understand best, and to be the most interested in, so, in talking with others, he guided himself by the same rule. The company was of a varied character, but he was not at fault, that I could discover, with any member of it. He knew just as much of each man's pursuit as made him agreeable, to that man in reference to it, and just as little as made it natural in him to seek modestly for information when the theme was broached.

As he talked and talked—but really not too much, for the rest of us seemed to force it upon him—I became quite angry with myself. I took his face to pieces in my mind, like a watch, and examined it in detail. I could not say much against any of his features separately; I could say even less against them when they was put together. "Then is it not monstrous," I asked myself, "that because a man happens to part his hair straight up the middle of his head, I should permit myself to suspect, and even to detect, him?"

(I may stop to remark that this was no proof of my good sense. An observer of men who finds himself steadily repelled by some apparently trifling thing in a stranger, is right to give it great weight. It may be a clue to the whole mystery. A hair or two will show where a lion is hidden. A very little key will open a very heavy door.)

I took my part in the conversation with him after a time, and we got on remarkably well. In the drawing room, I asked the host how long he had known Mr. Slinkton? He answered, not long, only that he had met him at the house of a celebrated painter, their present host, who knew him well, when he was travelling with his nieces in Italy for their health. His plans in life, being broken by the death of one of them, he was reading, with the intention of going back to college as a matter of form taking his degree, and going into the Church. I could not but argue with myself that here was the true explanation of his interest in poor Meltham, and that I had been almost brutal in my distrust on that simple head.

On the very next day but one, I was sitting behind my glass partition as before, when he came into the outer office as before. I hammered I saw him again without hearing him. I hated him more than ever.

It was only for a moment that he gave me this opportunity, for he waved his light-fitting black glove the instant I looked at him. And came straight in.

"Mr. Sampson, good day! I presume, you see, upon some kind permission to intrude upon you. I don't keep my word in being justified by business, for my business here—if I may so abuse the word—is of the slightest nature."

I asked, was it anything I could assist him in?

"It is I thank you, not. I merely called to inquire outside, whether my dilatory friend had been so false to himself as to be practical and sociable. But, of course, he has done nothing. I gave him your papers with my own hand, and he was not upon the intention, but, of course, he has done nothing. Apart from the general human disinclination to do anything that ought to be done, I dare say there is a specialty about assuring one's life? You find it like will making? People are so superstitious, and take it for granted, they will die soon afterwards?"

"Up here, if you please. Straight up here, Mr. Sampson." Neither to the right nor to the left. I almost fancied I could hear him breathe the words, as he sat smiling at me, with that intolerable parting exactly opposite the bridge of my nose.

"There is such a feeling, sometimes, no doubt," I replied; "but I don't think it obtains to any great extent."

"Well!" said he, with a shrug and a smile, "I wish some good angel would influence my friend in the right direction. I really promised his mother and sister in Norfolk to see it done, and he promised them that he would do it. But I suppose he never will."

He spoke for a minute or two on indifferent topics, and went away.

I had scarcely unlocked the drawers of my writing-table next morning when he reappeared. I noticed that he came straight to the door in the glass partition, and did not pause a single moment outside.

"Can you spare me two minutes, my dear Mr. Sampson?"

"By all means."

"Much obliged," laying his hat and umbrella on the table. "I came early, not to interrupt you. The fact is, I am taken by surprise, in reference to this proposal my friend has made."

"Has he made one?" I asked.

"Yes, he answered, deliberately looking at me; and then a bright idea seemed to strike him;—'or he only tells me he has. Perhaps that may be a new way of evading the matter. By Jupiter, I never thought of that!"

Mr. Adams was opening the morning's letters in the outer office. "What is the name, Mr. Slinkton?" I asked.

"Beckwith."

I looked out at the door, and requested Mr. Adams, if there were a proposal in that name, to bring it in. He had already laid it out of his hand on the counter. It was easily selected from the rest, and he gave it me. Alfred Beckwith. Proposal to effect a policy with us for two thousand pounds. Dated yesterday.

"From the Middle Temple, I see, Mr. Slinkton."

"Yes. He lives on the same staircase with me; his door is opposite mine. I never thought he would make me his reference though."

"It seems natural enough that he should."

"Quite so, Mr. Sampson; but, I never thought of it. Let me see." He took the printed paper from his pocket. "How am I to answer all these questions?"

"According to the truth, of course," said I.

"Oh! Of course," he answered, looking up from the paper with a smile. "I meant, they were so many. But, you do right to be particular. It stands to reason that you must be particular. Will you allow me to use your pen and ink?"

"Certainly."

"And your desk?"

"Certainly."

He had been hovering about between his hat and his umbrella, for a place to write on. He now sat down in my chair, at my blotting paper and sheltered, with the long walk up his head in accurate perspective before me, as I stood with my back to the fire.

Before answering each question, he ran over it aloud, and discussed it. How long had he known Mr. Alfred Beckwith? That he had to calculate by reckoning upon his fingers. What were his habits? No difficulty about them; temperate in the last degree, and took a little too much exercise, if anything. All the answers were satisfactory. When he had written them all, he looked them over, and finally signed them in a very pretty hand. He supposed, he had now done with the business? He told him he was not likely to be troubled any further. Should he leave the papers there? If he pleased. "Much obliged. Good morning!"

I had had one other visitor before him; not at the office, but at my own house. That visitor had come to my bedside when it was not yet daylight, and had been seen by no one else, but by my faithful confidential servant.

A second reference paper (for we always required two) was sent down into Norfolk, and was duly received back by post. This, likewise, was satisfactorily answered, in every respect. Our forms were all complied with, we accepted the proposal, and the premium for one year was paid.

IV.

For six or seven months, I saw no more of Mr. Slinkton. He called once at my house, but I was not at home, and he once asked me to dine with him in the Temple, but I was engaged. His friend's assurance was effected in March. Late in September or early in October, I was down at Scarborough for a breath of sea air, where I met him on the beach. It was a hot evening; he came towards me with his hat in his hand; and there was the walk that I had felt so strongly disinclined to take, in perfect order again, exactly in front of the bridge of my nose.

He was not alone; he had a young lady on his arm. She was dressed in mourning, and I looked at her with great interest. She had the appearance of being extremely delicate, and her face was remarkably pale and melancholy; but she was very pretty. He introduced her as his niece, Miss Niner.

"Are you strolling, Mr. Sampson? It is impossible you can be idle."

It was possible, and I was strolling.

"Shall we stroll together?"

"With pleasure."

The young lady walked between us, and we walked on the cool sand, in the direction of Filey.

"There have been heavy hearts here, since I left," said Mr. Slinkton. "And now I look at you, my uncle's of a hand-carriage! Margaret, my love, your shadow, with no doubt."

"Miss Niner's shadow?" I repeated, looking down at it on the sand.

"Not that one," Mr. Slinkton returned, laughing. "Margaret, my dear, tell Mr. Sampson."

"Indeed," said the young lady, turning to me, "there is nothing to tell, except that I constantly see the same invalid old gentleman, at all times, wherever I go. I have mentioned it to my uncle, and he calls the gentleman my shadow."

"Does he live in Scarborough?" I asked.

"He is staying here."

"Do you live in Scarborough?"

"No, I am staying here. My uncle has placed me with a family here, for my health."

"And your shadow?" said I, smiling.

"My shadow," she answered, smiling too, "is like myself—not very robust, I fear; for I lose my shadow sometimes, as my shadow loses me at other times. We both seem liable to confinement to the house. I have not seen my shadow for days and days; but it does oddly happen occasionally, that wherever I go, for many days together, this gentleman goes. We have come together in the most unfrequented nooks on this shore."

"Is this he?" said I, pointing before us.

The wheels had swept down to the water's edge, and described a great loop on the sand in turning. Bringing the loop back towards us, and spinning it out as it came, was a hand-carriage drawn by a man.

"Yes," said Miss Niner, "this really is my shadow, uncle!"

As the carriage approached, we and we approached the carriage. I saw within it an old man, whose head was sunk on his breast, and, who was enveloped in a variety of wrappers. He was drawn by a very quiet, very keen-looking man, with iron-grey hair, who was slightly lame. They had passed us, when the carriage stopped, and the old gentleman within, putting out his arm, called to me by my name. I went back, and was absent from Mr. Slinkton and his niece for about five minutes.

When I rejoined them, Mr. Slinkton was the first to speak. Indeed, he said to me in a raised voice before I came up with him: "It is well you have not been longer, or my niece might have died of curiosity to know who her shadow is, Mr. Sampson."

"An old East India Director," said I, "an intimate friend of our friend's at whose house I first had the pleasure of meeting you. A certain Major Banks. You have heard of him?"

"Never."

"Very rich, Miss Niner; but very old, and very crippled. An amiable, man—sensible—plating on the affection that he has observed to exist between you and your uncle."

Mr. Slinkton was holding his hat again, and he passed his hand up the straight walk, as if he himself went up it serently, after me.

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"Miss Niner's shadow?" I repeated, looking down at it on the sand.

"Not that one," Mr. Slinkton returned, laughing. "Margaret, my dear, tell Mr. Sampson."

"Indeed," said the young lady, turning to me, "there is nothing to tell, except that I constantly see the same invalid old gentleman, at all times, wherever I go. I have mentioned it to my uncle, and he calls the gentleman my shadow."

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The wheels had swept down to the water's edge, and described a great loop on the sand in turning. Bringing the loop back towards us, and spinning it out as it came, was a hand-carriage drawn by a man.

"Yes," said Miss Niner, "this really is my shadow, uncle!"

As the carriage approached, we and we approached the carriage. I saw within it an old man, whose head was sunk on his breast, and, who was enveloped in a variety of wrappers. He was drawn by a very quiet, very keen-looking man, with iron-grey hair, who was slightly lame. They had passed us, when the carriage stopped, and the old gentleman within, putting out his arm, called to me by my name. I went back, and was absent from Mr. Slinkton and his niece for about five minutes.

When I rejoined them, Mr. Slinkton was the first to speak. Indeed, he said to me in a raised voice before I came up with him: "It is well you have not been longer, or my niece might have died of curiosity to know who her shadow is, Mr. Sampson."

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you have turned him over [illegible] your foot—has, almost as often, on the same night, within an hour, within a few minutes, watched you awake, had his hand at your pillow when you were asleep, turned over your papers, taken samples from your bottles and packets of powder, changed their contents, rifled every secret of your life!"

He had had another pinch of snuff in his hand, but had gradually let it drop from between his fingers to the floor, where he now smoothed it out with his foot, looking down at it the while.

"That drunkard," said Beckwith, "who had free access to your rooms at all times, that he might drink the strong drinks you left in his way and be the sooner ended, holding no more terms with you than he would hold with a tiger, has had his master-key for all your locks, his net for all your poisons, his clue to your cipher writing. He can tell you, as well as you can tell him, how long it took to complete that deed, what doses there were, what intervals, what signs of gradual decay upon mind and body, what distempered fancies were produced, what observable changes, what physical pain. He can tell you as well as you can tell him, that all this was recorded day by day, as a lesson of experience for future service. He can tell you better than you can tell him, where that journal is at this moment."

Slinkton stopped the action of his foot, and looked at Beckwith.

"No," said the latter, as if answering a question from him. "Not in the drawer of the writing-desk that opens with the spring; it is not there, and it never will be there again."

"Then you are a thief!" said Slinkton.

Without any change whatever in the inflexible purpose which it was quite terrific even to me to contemplate, and from the power of which I had long felt convinced it was impossible for his wretch to escape, Beckwith returned:

"And I am your niece's shadow, too."

With an imprecation, Slinkton put his hand to his head, tore out some hair, and flung it on the ground. It was the end of the smooth walk; he destroyed it in the action, and it will soon seem that his use for it was past.

Beckwith went on: "Whenever you left here, I left here. Although I understood that we found it necessary to pause in the completion of that purpose, to avert suspicion, still I watched you close, with the poor confiding girl. When I had your diary, and could read every word by word—it was only about the night before your last visit to Scarborough—do you remember the night? you slept with a small flat phial tied to your wrist—next to Mr. Sampson, who was kept out of view. This is Mr. Sampson's trusty servant standing by the door. We three saved your life among us."

Slinkton looked at us all, took an uncertain step or two from the place where he had stood, coming to it, and glanced about him in a very vicious way—as one of the meaner reptiles might, when looking for a hole to hide in. I noticed at the same time, that a singular change took place in the figure of the man—as if it had expanded within his clothes, and they consequently became ill-shapen and ill-fitting.

"You shall know," said Beckwith, "for I hope the knowledge will be bitter and terrible to you, why you have been pursued by one man, and why, when the whole interest that Mr. Sampson represents, would have expended any delay in hunting you down, you have been allowed to death at a single individual's charge. Stop! you have had the name of Meltham on your lips sometimes?"

I saw, in addition to those other changes, a sudden stoppage come upon his breathing.

"When you sent the sweet girl whom you murdered (you know with what artfully-made surroundings and probabilities you sent her), to Meltham's office before taking her abroad, to negotiate the transaction that doomed her to the grave, it fell to Meltham's lot to see her and to speak with her. It did not fall to his lot to save her, though I know he would freely give his own life to have done it. He admired her;—I would say, he loved her deeply, if I thought it possible that you could understand the word. When she was sacrificed, he was thoroughly assured of your guilt. Having lost her, he had but one object left in life, and that was, to avenge her and destroy you."

I saw the villain's nostrils rise and fall convulsively; but I saw no moving at his mouth.

"That man, Meltham," Beckwith steadily pursued, "was as absolutely certain that you should never elude him in this world, if he devoted himself to your destruction with his utmost fidelity and earnestness, and if he divided his sacred duty with no other duty in life, as he was certain that in achieving it he would be an instrument in the hands of Providence, that he would do well before Heaven in striking you out from among living men. I am that man, and I thank God that I have done my work!"

Slinkton had been running for his life from hunted savages, a dozen miles, he could not show more emphatic signs of being opposed at heart and labouring for breath, than he showed now, when he looked at the pursuer who had so relentlessly hunted him down.

"You never saw me under my right name before; you see me under my right name now. You shall see me once again, in the body, when you are tried for your life. You shall see me again, in the spirit, when the cord is round your neck, and the crowd are crying against you."

When Meltham had spoken these last words, the miscreant suddenly turned away his face, as if he seemed to strike his mouth with his open hand. At the same instant, the room was filled with a new and powerful odour, and, almost at the same instant, he broke into a wild run, leap, start—I have no name for the spasm—and fell, with a dull weight that shook the heavy old doors and windows in their frames.

That was the fitting end of him.

When we saw that he was dead, we drew back from the room, and Meltham, giving me his hand, said with a weary air:

"I have no more work on earth, my friend. I shall see her again, elsewhere."

It was in vain that I tried to rally him. He might have saved her, he said; he had not saved her, and he reproached himself; he had loved her, and he was broken-hearted.

"The purpose that sustained me, is over, soon, and there is nothing now to hold me up. I am not fit for life; I am weak and diseased; I have no hope and no object; my work is done."

In truth, I could hardly have believed that the strong man who then spoke to me, was the man I had so strongly and so differently impressed when his purpose was yet before him. I used such entreaties with him, as I could; but, he still said, and always said, in a quiet undemonstrative way—nothing could cure him—he was broken-hearted.

He died early in the next spring. He was buried by the side of the poor young lady for whom he had cherished those tender and unavailing regrets, and he left all he had to her. She lived to be a happy wife and mother; she married my sister's son, who succeeded to poor Meltham; she is living now; and her children ride about the garden on my walking-stick, when I go to see her.

## RATS.

Of rats, while their number is legion, the varieties are but three—the water-rat, black rat, and brown rat. The first named, a harmless inoffensive creature, subsisting entirely upon the roots growing in the water wherein he lives and dies, is more akin to the beaver than the rat, and may at once be dismissed as having been improperly thrust into a family with which he has no affinity. Of the remaining branches naturalised in England, the black rat *(Mus rattus)* claims precedence on the score of priority of occupation. Although Watterton, in his hatred of his brown brother, calls him "an injured Briton," there is little doubt of the eastern origin of the tribe. The precise period of its migration to this country is not to be fixed with certainty; but whether the rat first took up his abode here in the sixteenth century, as is generally supposed, or not, it is evident, from the frequent allusions to the "insatiate little brute" in the poetry of the time, that it was familiar enough to the citizens of Elizabethan London. Rosalind, it will be remembered, talks of being be-rhymed when she was an Irish rat; and the friends of the lucky hero of Beauchamp and Fletcher's Wit without Money can only account for his unceasing good-fortune by his being haunted by some fairy, old woman, or rat, the company of either being equally desirable and efficacious.

For a long period the black rat remained the sole representative of his race in England; but the ship that brought over the Elector George to fill the British throne, brought also the brown rat (*Mus decumanus*), destined to oust him from his possessions. The new-comer received the name of the Norwegian rat, on much the same principle as the white or crimson-coloured geological formation called "green sandstone" was christened, as the Scandinavians were happily unacquainted with the animal until long after its naturalisation among ourselves. Whether the intruders came from India, Persia, or Gibraltar, is undecided. They at all events proved too strong for the elder fraternity, which gradually diminished before them; though there does not seem to be any foundation for the supposition of a deadly enmity existing between the two races, since in France they are found living amicably and sociably together. We incline to Mr. Rodwell's theory, that the fairer foreigners, whether through their superior fascinations, or their superior strength, carried off the black ladies from their liege-lords; and so, in a few generations, the Browns would naturally obtain predominance in numbers over the Blacks. The latter, indeed, were thought to have become extinct, or nearly so. A man who had walked the sewers for twelve years, saw only two of them during the whole time. The proprietor of the well-known "Happy Family" of cats, rats, mice, monkeys, and birds, used to sell specimens of the species at three guineas each, until the destruction of the St. Giles's Rookery disclosed his hunting-ground, and spoiled the market. The black rat still lurks in the garrets and roofs of ancient London houses; and in some of the older metropolitan granaries, the workmen occasionally disturb "great black fellows as would frighten a lady into asterisks."

Since the irruption of the Browns, they have had a century and a half in which to increase and multiply, and have carried out that injunction at such a rate, that a rat-census for 1860 would make rather an alarming blue-book. The females breed at three months old, live in a state of polygamy, add to the vermin population five or six times in the year, and produce eight, twelve, fourteen, sixteen, and sometimes as many as eighteen young in a litter. It has been calculated that in three years there will spring no less than 651,000 rats from a single pair. Although this seems too enormous a number to be correct, it would perhaps be difficult to overestimate the numbers of these animals. 600,000 rats were killed in Paris in the short space of a fortnight, merely to obtain their skins for a couple of manufacturers at Grenoble; 6000 have met their deaths from the dogs and men at the slaughter-house of Montfaucon in a month. At the present time, Marseilles is overrun with them; traps and poison proving futile against the army of destroyers, who range even the public streets with impunity; the cats have fled in affright; and the only reliance of the inhabitants lies in the arrival of a cargo of English terriers, our little champions of the pit alone being of any avail against the invading host.

The voracity of rats is no less remarkable than their fecundity. Their taste is universal; nothing comes amiss to their palate. Their love for free-trade in corn makes it necessary to floor our Thames granaries with concrete and glass, and panoply their walls in sheet-iron. They swarm in the sewers near the slaughter-houses of Newgate Market, for the sake of the offal; they undermine stacks of cheeses in warehouses, often falling victims to their unskilful engineering, by being crushed by them. To the careful housewife, rats are a perpetual annoyance; supping off her best yellow or mottled, making light of her moulds and dips, defying her to save her bacon, or preserve her jams and pastry, poaching her eggs, licking her butter, dipping their tails in flasks of oil, and even devouring boots and shoes. They are the pests of the farmhouse, dirtying every place, boring holes in boarded floors, undermining stone pavements, gnawing harness, killing the chickens and ducks, or living in the heart of the corn-rick.

In spring, the country rat, forsaking the stack in which he has been snugly housed during the winter, takes the fields; he burrows like the rabbit, and makes cruel war upon young leverets and game of all kinds. Not content with eating his fill of grain in the fields, he lays in a store for future use. With the arrival of autumn, the majority of barn-rats return to their old homes; some, however, prefer the wild life of the woods, and become regular poachers. These grow longer and more weasel-like, their hair shaggier, their whiskers longer, and their character altogether more determined and ferocious. Marauders of this sort have put the Zoological Society to great expense, to protect their charges against their depredations. They have driven the puffins from Puffin Island, and made the Cape geese in Richmond Park take to building their nests in the oak pollards, that they may hatch their eggs in security. In the indulgence of their predilection for eggs, rats display great judgment. It would appear almost impossible for them to carry off such fragile sport without breakage, but they do contrive to do so. If the theft is achieved without a confederate, the rat stretches out its fore-leg underneath the egg, steadies it above with its cheek, and hops away cautiously upon three legs. To convey an egg from the bottom to the top of a house is a still more difficult affair, and probably an impossibility for a single rat to perform. With the aid of a partner, the operation is thus managed: the male rat stands upon his head, and lifts up the egg with his hind legs; the female taking it thence in her fore-paws, secures it till her lord ascends a step higher; and so they proceed from stair to stair, till their booty is deposited safely in their hole. A London pastry-cook had some fine eggs which he prized highly, but the number of which was mysteriously diminished night after night. Suspicion, of course, fell upon the domestics. One of them, a maid-servant, hearing one night a noise on the stairs, stole out on the landing, fancying she might be fortunate enough to detect the egg-pilferer. She was not mistaken, although she was considerably astonished at discovering who the real offenders were. She saw two rats, one larger than the other, busily engaged in carrying the cherished eggs down stairs, and felt too interested in watching their proceedings to think of disturbing them. The big rat stood on his hind legs, with his fore-paws and head resting on the step above; the lady-rat rolled the egg gently towards her spouse; clasping it gently, but firmly, he lifted it carefully on the step upon which he stood; holding it there until she came and took charge of it, when he descended a step lower; till the clever pair reached the lower-most floor with their prize uninjured.

The wholesale larceny with which the rat is too justly charged, is criminal enough, in all conscience, but worse remains behind. He has been known to make a meal of the fingers and toes of a living baby. Forty years ago, a pie-maker, finding his delicacies unaccountably disappear, determined to lie in wait in his bake-house one night, and so catch the delinquents. Unfortunately, they caught him, and devoured the unfortunate pieman in preference to his pies. There is one dish that is more tempting to the rat's palate than any other, and for which he will desert anything else in the eatable world, and that is, a defunct relative. Should two rats agree to settle their differences by a mortal combat, their friends and acquaintances look on as complacently as distinguished amateurs contemplate a fight for the championship. But immediately the affair is concluded by the death of one of the combatants, the spectators break up the ring, and incontinently set upon victor and vanquished, and eat them up then and there. Woe, too, to any unfortunate meeting with an accident, or becoming infirm, for he is gobbled up without remorse. When a rat's leg is found in a trap, instead of its being a proof of his resolution in preferring to leave a limb behind rather than remain in captivity the chances are that some of his kith and kin have eaten him alive. In consequence of this propensity for cannibalism, when Mrs. Rat becomes a mother, she is obliged to hide her offspring, lest papa or some old gentleman of his acquaintance should make his dinner of them, which he would certainly do if he found them unprotected. For the same reason, wise old rats retire into solitude, disgusted with their kind; and if attacked in their retreat, prove desperate foes, beating off any rat, without regard to sex, that ventures to intrude on their privacy. An old gentleman of this description will keep a house clearer of vermin than any cat or dog, for he will allow no brother near his throne.

The rat can scarcely be considered a courageous animal: he relies more upon his cunning than strength, and in presence of a superior enemy, thinks only of escape; but if rendered desperate, by being pressed into a corner, will turn savagely on his pursuer—the sewer rat being incomparably more ferocious than his compeers.

The rat's weapon of offence and defence consist of four long sharp teeth, two in the front of the upper, and two in the lower jaw, formed like wedges, and always possessing a fine sharp cutting edge, coated with a hard enamel, the inner part being of a soft ivory-like composition. The teeth of the upper jaw work exactly into those of the lower one, their centres meeting in the act of gnawing, the soft part worn away in that operation being replaced by a fresh growth from the bottom. The incessant working of the animal's incisor teeth against the hard substance, prevents the jaw being locked by the rapid growth of the soft interior of the teeth. The hind-feet of the rat are so supple that they may be turned outwards, till the heel is in front; he is thus enabled to hang on to trees, railings, or walls by his hind toes, and let himself down the perpendicular places gently and safely.

In justice to an object of such universal dislike, it is but fair to mention the good qualities of the rat. He is not quite devoid of all feeling and affection; both Mr. Jesse and Mr. Cotton attest having seen blind rats being led by their companions to a place of security. Nor are instances rare of the rat becoming tame, and showing its attachment to those who pet and fondle it; it can even be trained to live in amity with its natural foes the ferret, cat, and dog. When in a state of liberty, rats appear to be free from disease of any kind—a fact to be perhaps attributed to their great cleanliness, all their leasure time being spent sitting on end, cleaning their fur. To wetting their feet, they have a great aversion; even the sewer rats, who might not be expected to be so scrupulous, only taking to the sewage in case of danger. Spite, however, of their dislike of water, they do not allow it to interfore in their predatory excursions, or to prevent them establishing themselves on board ship. Once fairly lodged there, nothing will drive them away as long as they can find means of satisfying their thirst. They ascend the rigging to extract the moisture from the sails, and, in default of water, attack the spirits till they are laid prostrate by intoxication. Ships are often so overrun with the creatures as to necessitate the use of brimstone and charcoal, by which they are suffocated. On the return of the steamer Terrible from the Mediterranean, four hundred were caught in three days; and on board of another man-of-war the vermin destroyed a hundredweight of biscuit daily. However far they may gnaw their way through the interior of a vessel, they never pass through the sides, probably because the wood, being saturated by the salt water, becomes too nauseous for their taste.

Rat-catching as an occupation is in but low repute. The country rat-catcher, usually a man of few words, and those few not always to be relied upon, is a compound of the gipsy, gamekeeper, and poacher. By night or day, awake or asleep, he is seldom seen apart from his dogs, ever ready to espouse their master's quarrels, and not backward in using their teeth on any disturber of his serenity. Looked upon with suspicion by all who employ him, the rat-catcher makes but a poor living, let him work as hard as he may. In London, an honest rat-catcher is looked upon as a rarity indeed, public opinion connecting them with dog-stealers, burglars, and other breakers of the laws. Nevertheless, such are to be found. The two principal members of the metropolitan fraternity destroy between them about nine thousand rats per annum, and have seldom less than from one hundred to a thousand on sale at the rate of two-and-six-pence a dozen: they calculate the cost of keeping one hundred rats in captivity at ten shillings a week. These legitimate practitioners contract with large establishments at an annual premium, according to the number of visits they are expected to make. The proprietor of a west-end hotel pays £6 per annum; the rat-catchers attend once every week, capturing from twenty to thirty rats each time, which are of course their property. For the same amount, a metropolitan workhouse has its vermin poisoned regularly once a month. There are twenty-five regular rat-catchers in London, most of whom deal in dogs, ferrets, and rabbits. According to the last census, 2256 persons wrote themselves down "vermin-killers." The rat-catching of the London sewers is almost a monopoly, no one caring to interfere with the unpleasant trade of Jumper, Jem, and Jem's man. Carrying a bull's-eye lantern, a strong iron cage, and short rake, these underground chiffonniers wade waist-deep in filth, to obtain rats for gentlemen who have a mind to try the prowess of their dogs against the fiercest opponents. More valuable prizes sometimes fall to their share, articles which have accidentally found their way down the drains, or been purposely thrown there by some fugitive thief. The worthy trio have not been suffered to follow their unsavoury calling quite unmolested. A lord mayor once threatened to punish them for trespassing, and an officious constable took them into custody for being found unlawfully in the city sewers, and having in their possession a key to unlock the various trap doors. Since that, neither officials nor rivals have interfered with their pursuit. All those conversant with the subject agree, that the number of rats in the sewers have greatly diminished of late years: when flushing was first introduced, cart-loads of drowned rats were carried into the Thames; that is not the case now, either in consequence of a falling off in the sub-terrene population, or else because, as one familiar with the sewers suggests, "rats is up to flushing now." The sewers themselves afford but a small supply of food to their inhabitants; they serve rather as breeding-grounds, the animals making their homes in the holes formed by the falling in of bricks, or where old rotting house-drains in the smaller sewers empty themselves into a main one, whence they can find their way up into the adjacent houses. The introduction of pottery pipes for drainage, impervious to the teeth of the rat, combined with improved trapping, has done wonders in decreasing the numbers of these rapacious vermin, by preventing them getting admission into the houses, and confining them to the unsupporting sewage.

Rat-catchers, who wish to allure the rats from any one place to another, either for the purpose of more conveniently destroying them, or the less commendable one of establishing them on the premises of one to whom they bear a grudge, practise rat-trailing. A red-herring is tied by the tail to a piece of string, with as little handling as possible. After dark, it is trailed round the places where the enemy is ensconced, the trailer striking off to the spot to which he wishes to attract the rats, and there leaving the bait. As soon as they catch the scent, off they set, nosing it like hounds, and in all probability will abide where the trail is left. Old rags, or a calf's tail sprinkled with oil of aniseed, is still more effectual, used in the same way.

Recipes for the extirpation of rats are as plentiful as remedies for the gout or toothache. Dead rats powdered with arsenic laid in their holes; live ones dressed in red, covered with hot pitch, or belled and turned loose; fumigation with salt, oil of vitriol, lupins, or smallage seed; pounded dog's tongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) placed in their quarters, are all warranted to drive the unwelcome guests away. Phosphorus—when plenty of water is provided for them—is highly recommended as a destroying agent. Arsenical paste; oatmeal, coloquintida and honey; wild cucumber and black hellebore seeds; carbonate of barytes, mixed with dripping, have each their advocates, but the following is especially commended: Three ounces of treacle, one ounce of fine ground nuxvomica, well mixed together; then add one pound best white flour, half-a-pound bread-crumbs, cut to size of pease, and six drops of oil of caraways; mix thoroughly, and place near their holes.

Should any of our readers ever be bitten by a rat, no harm will follow if the part be immediately cleansed with yellow soap and warm water; and with this piece of information, which we hope they will never require, we take leave of them and our subject.—Chambers.

## A DARK PAGE FROM RUSSIAN HISTORY.

Few readers of Russian history will fail to remember the name of Count Alexey Orloff, one of the most prominent actors in the murder of Peter III. of Russia. But treacherous as was that deed, it loses half its blackness when compared with another committed by him at the instigation of Catharine II., widow and successor to the murdered monarch.

Catharine, not being a native Russian princess, was most desirous of removing from her path all who might be supposed likely to disturb the security of her government; and in order to effect her purpose, in one instance, she and her associate Orloff exercised a degree of fiendish ingenuity almost unparalleled in history. The unfortunate girl who excited the jealousy of Catharine was a Russian princess, and granddaughter to Peter the Great. Elizabeth II., his daughter, contracted a private marriage with Count Alexey Razumoffsky, and three children, two sons and a daughter, were the issue of this union. Of the sons, it is only necessary to say that one was accidentally killed, and the other not judged of sufficient political importance to excite either jealousy or suspicion. But it was otherwise with the young Princess Tarranakoff, the subject of our story.

The ambitious designs of the Empress Catharine with regard to Poland excited the indignation of the Polish nobles, and one of these, the Count Radzivill, conceived the design of using this young native princess as an instrument in supplanting her. For this purpose, by dint of bribing her female attendants, he secretly removed her to Poland, and thence to Italy. Many attempts were made to induce Radzivill to place the young princess in the power of Catharine; but though reduced to poverty by the confiscation of his estates, the promise of their restoration, and the offer of the most costly bribes, failed in inducing him to yield. No effect being produced by such proposals, the empress had recourse to threats. Mysterious communications were conveyed to the Polish count, intimating that ruin and misery impended over the Princess Tarranakoff, which could be averted only by his ceasing all correspondence with her. Whatever ambitious designs might have actuated Radzivill, he was most anxious for the safety of the unfortunate girl. What could he do? Shorn of his estates and dignities, and in a foreign land, how was he to protect her from a powerful empress and most unscrupulous woman? Unhappily, he yielded to these covert menaces, and took a final leave of the princess, having first exacted a pledge from the Russian government that she should remain unmolested.

This separation effected, the most difficult part of Catharine's work was completed, and by the aid of the Count Alexey Orloff, and one of his infamous associates, the rest became easy. Though the murderer of her husband, Count Alexey retained the favour of his imperial mistress; doubtless, she found him a most useful tool in accomplishing other dark deeds, though a fouler crime than the one committed on that hapless princess could hardly disgrace human nature. When first resident at Rome, the granddaughter of Peter the Great was amply supplied with everything befitting her rank; but at the time Orloff came thither, she was almost in want, and occupying a poor lodging in a humble quarter of the city. Judge of her surprise when an elegantly attired officer called upon her to offer his services. Though he was to all appearance wealthy, and *her* situation one of actual indigence, he paid her the same respect as though she had been seated on the imperial throne. When invited to sit in her presence, he respectfully declined, "Misfortune," said he, "cannot alter your claims to our respect. Can I, when you are before me, forget that the granddaughter of the illustrious Czar Peter the Great is entitled to all the homage I can offer? Is it for me, because you are in a foreign land, to forget that to you, and not to the tyrannical foreigner who occupies it, belongs the imperial throne of Russia? I have not the honour to be your countryman, but believe me, princess, I am not the less devoted to your service, in which I would freely lay down my life."

The unfortunate princess listened with delight and thankfulness to this address. It was long since such respectful language had greeted her ears, and the departure of Radzivill had almost reduced her to despair. She answered this flattering speech in terms which proved how much pleasure it had given her, and desired to know to whom she was indebted for this solicitude respecting her welfare. To this her visitor replied: "That his name was of little moment, since he was only the ambassador sent by some of her most influental countrymen, whose hearts bled to think that she, the descendant of one so doubly illustrious as the Czar Peter the Great had proved himself to be, should be exposed to neglect and indigence in a foreign land." The princess, being naturally curious to know the names of those whose interest was so deeply excited in her behalf, again pressed her visitor for information on this point, but he still refused to gratify her curiosity. He, however, begged permission to present one who would explain all; and, having obtained it, withdrew as from the presence of a sovereign prince, having first knelt to kiss her hand.

The visitor who thus imposed on the credulity of the Princess Tarranakoff was indeed employed by one of her countrymen, he being the spy and associate of Count Alexey Orloff. The uniform in which he appeared was of course assumed for the occasion, as he was in reality a man of most infamous character, a Neapolitan by birth, and chosen as his tool by the count, because he had already committed crimes sufficient to prove that he would enter unscrupulously into the designs of that nobleman. Ribas, for that was his name, did not at once introduce Orloff to the presence of his intended victim; he repeated his visits, and finding that she was in actual need, induced her to make use of his purse, and by the respect he paid her, completely won her confidence.

Now was Orloff's time. When informed that the schemes of his emissary had proved successful, and the princess was duly prepared to listened to, and believed whatever he might advance, the principal tragedian, as we may call him, appeared on the stage.

Better skilled in the ways of a court than was his emissary, the deference of the latter sank into insignificance when compared with that of his more polished employer; and so well did the latter play his part that the princess became devotedly attached to the man whom she believed to be a model of all that was noble, good, and disinterested. In a short time Orloff had cause for exultation in the success of his plan, for the princess readily consented to be his wife. A sham-marriage completed the deception, and was followed on the part of the princess by a brief period of unclouded happiness. Never for a moment did she suspect the imposition that had been practised upon her, but built with the most perfect faith on the affection and sincerity of him she believed to be her husband.

One day he entered her presence with an air of the greatest concern, and on her inquiring the reason of his sadness, Orloff replied: "Ah, dearest, I may well look sorrowful since I must leave you—you whom all here call the good and the beautiful. But who can tell how good or how beautiful you are in my eyes? You, the granddaughter of one who made himself as illustrious by his deeds as by his high station, yet deigned to bestow on me the treasure of your love?"

"Why speak of this, Alexey?" said the princess. "My birth mattered little when you sought and found me poor—nay, in want. It was not on an illustrious princess you fixed your affections, but on a neglected and unfortunate woman. Why should we part? Can I not accompany you? Am I not your wife, and as such, is it not my pleasure to sacrifice my convenience to yours?"

It was, of course, no part of Orloff's intention to leave his wife behind, though he was desirous that she should propose to accompany him. Hitherto, she had been carefully watched, though unknown to herself, she having attributed the continual presence of the count to the devoted affection he professed for her. She was now informed that he had received a summons to join the squadron he commanded at Leghorn, and thither she also went, and was received with many demonstrations of respect. Orloff's scheme was fast approaching to its completion, and the Empress Catharine, exulting in its success, prepared to shower honours on those who had laboured so zealously in her behalf.

It was a lovely day, with the blue sky only as an Italian sky can be, when the Princess Tarranakoff, escorted by her husband, stepped into a magnificent barge. Gay, and in the highest spirits, the princess laughed and chatted with her attendants, little dreaming of the horrible fate impending over her. It had been arranged that she should be permitted the indulgence of a marine excursion, and she was assisted up the side of the vessel by her obsequious husband. The lookers-on saw the sails spread without suspicion, and waved their farewells, deeming that they should soon witness the return of the party. The hapless princess was doomed never to revisit the shores of Italy. On board the ship were none save the creatures of Orloff; and now, having his wife completely in his power, he revealed his treachery in all its blackness and fiendish ingenuity. The delicate wrists of the princess were manacled, and the granddaughter of the Czar was taken back to her native land, not, as she had been led to expect, with the honours due to her rank, and the prospect of a throne, but as a wretched prisoner.

It would be utterly impossible to depict the agony of mind she must have endured during this gloomy voyage, but probably no human being ever suffered greater. For during several years after her arrival, she was the inmate of a dungeon in the Russian capital. Catharine triumphed in the success of her plan, and amply rewarded those who had too successfully carried it out. Europe might exclaim against her, but her object was gained, and the Princess Tarranakoff was in her power. In her dark prison-house, the unhappy young woman spent, it is said, six years, and her deliverence came in a dreadful fashion. The autumnal equinox was at hand, and a furious gale raged in St. Petersburg. The angry waves of the Neva lashed the sides of the prison in which she was confined. Absorbed in sorrowful recollections, she scarcely heeded the storm, until she noticed that the floor of her dungeon was wet; then the horrible thought crossed her mind, that the river was rising. Perceiving that the water gained in height, she shrieked aloud; she strove, by every means in her power, to attract the attention of her gaoler. But no human aid was at hand. She raised herself as high as possible by means of the articles of furniture in her cell, but still the waters pursued her. The whole of the ground floor of the prison was laid under water. When the gale had passed over, and the impetuous Neva returned to its ordinary course, her jailer found only the corpse of what had been the victim of Count Alexey Orloff's treachery, and the jealous hatred of Catharina Alexiewna.—Chambers.

A Mad Elephant.—The following letter is taken from the Bombay Times and Standard:—"Cochin, August 18.—The inhabitants of Trechoor (a few miles hence) are just now in a great fright, owing to a newly-trained elephant having gone mad and become ungovernable. It has already killed three men, and occasioned considerable damage to property. One of the men seems to have fallen a victim to its fury through his own folly. It appears that while himself and his elder brother (who were both trainers of the animal) were on their way down a hill with the elephant, it suddenly revolted and attempted to seize them. Finding every effort to calm it unavailing, they took refuge on the top of a huge tree close by. The animal pursued them; but after a few minutes fruitless endeavours to knock down the tree it descended into the paddy fields below, and committed great devastation in the place. Afterwards, while it was directing its way to the village, the younger brother, heedless of his elder's remonstances, came down from the tree, and hastened towards the elephant, intending to recall it to obedience in order to avert further mischief. But the animal, as soon as it caught sight of the man, furiously chased him, who after running desperately about the fields for nearly half an hour, hid himself among the tall paddy shoots in a somewhat secluded place. The elephant, a while after missing its object, was about resuming its course to the village, when the ill-fated man suddenly rose to see whether his pursuer was gone. The noise of the water and crash of the leaves occasioned by his rising made the elephant, which was not far off, turn round, and he was discovered. The infuriated monster at once dashed upon him, and within a few seconds the unfortunate man was torn limb from limb, in the very sight of his brother, who still continued on the tree. The animal soon after proceeded towards the village, where, within the space of half an hour, it killed two other persons (Poolichs), destroyed several houses, and ruined the bazaar, which was deserted by the merchants on hearing of the approach of the beast. At length it entered the spacious premises of the pagoda, which is enclosed by lofty granite walls of considerable strength and durability. Immediately on its entrance, which was effected by the manœuvres of its keepers throwing stones, &c., on its heels and other vulnerable parts, all the gates were closed and strongly barricaded to insure public safety. It would appear that several expert elephant trainers were also within the enclosure, who voluntarily undertook the perilous task of quieting and taming the animal by dint of professional management. The pagoda, which has already sustained a good deal of damage by the attacks of the elephant, is their only refuge; and, if that is demolished, the fate of these trainers is inevitable. The only alternative I see now is either to destroy the beast at once by bullets, or to starve it to a degree which would render it powerless, that the trainers may effect its capture."

The Queen of Irish Descent.—A letter in the Evening Packet of Saturday says: "On reading the address to Marshal M'Mahon, in which allusion is so pointedly made to his descent from the ancient monarchs of Ireland, I find that the presenters are unaware that our beloved Sovereign is Queen of Ireland by virtue of her descent from the family of Fergus the Irish Prince, among whose subjects were included the general's ancestors, and other families which subsequently attained royal dignity in the country. Also, that since Edward IV. (the lineal descendant through the families of Mortimer, &c., of the Irish King Dermot MacMurrough) has Irish royalty—as the Saxon previously and the Scottish subsequently—merged in the occupant of the throne of the British Isles."

The Fountain of St. Michael, Paris.—This fountain is placed at the fork of the new Boulevard Sebastopol, facing the bridge of St. Michael. Its height is not less than twenty-six metres, and its width fifteen metres. It was commenced in the month of June, 1858, and was inaugurated on the 15th of August last. It is raised upon vaulted cellars, constructed of rubble work and Portland cement. The basement, 6m. 40c. high to the base of the columns, is formed of St. Yllie stone (Jura.) The rest of the monument is of the De Mery stone. The four stages for the waterfall and the basin are executed in St. Yllie stone; the border of the lower basin is raised only thirty centimetres above the level of the footpaths. At each extremity of the lowest stage are two pedestals, supporting apocalyptic animals vanquished by angels. In the basement, two pedestals on each side serve to support columns. The panel between each pair is ornamented with a tablet of grey Breccia marble, cut in facets. In the niche, and above the topmost stage is a group of St. Michael subduing Satan. This group is 5m. 50c. high; it is supported by a rock of stone from Soignies, Belgium. This rock, from which the water flows, covers a cast-iron reservoir, that serves for support to the group, and supplies the fountain at the rate of twenty-three litres a second. The works have been executed by the Municipal Service of Promenades and Plantations of the city of Paris in charge of the Bois de Boulogne, and of the squares and the decoration of public places, under the direction of M. Alphand, engineer-in-chief. It has been executed from the designs of M. Davioud, architect-in-chief to this service.—Builder.

Curious Mirage.—This singular phenomenon was witnessed on Sunday evening in this neighbourhood. A gentleman was returning from Caradonagh, with his family, and the party had just dismounted off the car to walk the hill near Quigley's Point, when their attention was attracted by a wonderful appearance in the heavens. Away to the north they saw several ships in the air, sailing across the face of the sky from east to west. The line of vessels seemed to be fully five miles in length, and they appeared to be sailing down a river, whose high banks could be made out behind the ships. Some of the vessels seemed to be moored close to a fortress built on a rock. To all the party was the phenomenon distinctly visible. So clear was the air, and so close did the ships appear to their eyes, that the sailors pulling at the ropes could be made out with ease, even by the children who saw the strange spectacle. The phenomenon was nearly half-an-hour before it disappeared. Although the appearance of such things in the heavens may be very startling, the phenomena are not unknown about this part of the Irish coast. The "mirage," as it is termed, often displays itself in fantastic shapes on the shores of the northern counties. It most frequently is to be seen on the coast of Antrim, especially in the vicinity of the Causeway. About twelve years ago a very curious instance of mirage was seen in Lough Foyle. Some fishermen had been out at night with their nets. The face of the heavens was overcast and black, when the clouds suddenly parted, leaving a bright gap of clear sky in the zenith. Across this space the astonished fishermen saw some thousands of soldiers pass, rank after rank, and regiment after regiment; and so near did the phenomenon appear, that the dress of the officers could be easily distinguished from that of the men. It was two hours before the marching ceased, or rather before the clouds closed in and shut out the scene from view.—Derry Standard.

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## SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—DECEMBER 27.

Hunter (s.), 264 tons, Captain Sullivan, from Merimbula 24th. Passengers—Miss Hunter, Messrs. M'Donald, Jenkins, and 31 in the steerage. I. S. N. Company, agents.

Iconium, American ship, 366 tons, Captain Eustace, from San Francisco 15th October. Passengers—Messrs. C. Wheatleigh, Cook, Snow, and 5 in the steerage. Gilchrist, Watt, and Co., agents.

Dureta, French transport, 4 guns, Captain Souberaray, from Rio Janeiro 17th October.

DEPARTURES.—DECEMBER 27.

City of Sydney (s.), for Melbourne.
Gipsy, for Twofold Bay.
Telegraph (s.), for Brisbane.

PROJECTED DEPARTURES.—DECEMBER 27.

Mary Agnes, for California; Wild Wave, for Petropaulovski; Eagle (s.), for Rockhampton.

CLEARANCE.—DECEMBER 27.

City of Sydney (s.), Captain T. Moodie, for Melbourne. Passengers—Mrs. Mylrea, Miss M. Williamson, Mr. C. Palmer, Mr. H. Clarke, Mr. John Smith, Mr. A. Donaldson, Dr. Ross, Mr. C. Wheatley, Mr. E. Knox, Mrs. Jellyp, Mr. F. M'Nab, Mr. T. B. Guest, Mr. Wills, Mrs. Mylrea, sen., Mr. S. Reed, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Pease, Mr. Phillips, Mr. W. Abbott, and 29 in the steerage. To Eden—Master Silk, Mr. Marks, Mr. Moses, and 8 in the steerage.

Telegraph (s.), 700 tons, Captain O'Reilly, for Brisbane. Passengers—Mr. and Mrs. C. Wilson 2 children and servant, Messrs. Creggon, J. N. Officer, E. Lamb, G. Sandiman, S. M. Frankland, J. P. Bell, O. Redsa, Mrs. West, Miss West, Rev. J. Dougall, Mr. H. B. Hayes, Mr. E. J. Williams, and 30 in the steerage.

COASTERS INWARDS.—DECEMBER 27.

John Mitchell, from Broken Bay, with 600 baskets shells; Maid of the Mill, from Botany, with 700 spokes, 51 pieces timber, 36 bags charcoal; Grafton, Alcion, Mechanic, Perseverance, Little Pet, Atlantic, and Pacific, from Newcastle, with 771 tons coal; Unknown, from Morpeth, with 60 tons coal; Economist, from Brisbane Water, with 400 baskets shells; Australia, Flying Fish, Spec, Woodpecker, and Lightning, from Manning River, with 986 bags maize, 15 bags bran, 21 boxes eggs, 17 bags potatoes, 160 horns, 31 hides, 6 coops poultry; Kisma (s.), from Wollongong and Kiama, with 57 kegs butter, 30 bags bran, 17 pigs, 3 calves; Dart, from Morpeth, with 725 bags maize, 121 bales hay, 56 bags bran, 4 bags bones. Collaroy (s.), from Morpeth, with 5 bales wool, 30 bags potatoes, 20 bags onions, 5 coops poultry, 4 cases eggs.

COASTERS OUTWARDS.—DECEMBER 27.

Maid of the Mill, for Botany; Sylph, and Economist, for Brisbane Water; Gazelle, for Port Stephens; Grafton, Pacific, Little Pet, and Atlantic, for Newcastle; John Mitchell, for Broken Bay; Thane of Fife, for Bellambi.

IMPORTS.—DECEMBER 27.

Iconium, from San Francisco: 15,448 sacks oats, 2259 sacks wheat, 275 packages salmon, Gilchrist, Watt, and Co.

EXPORTS.—DECEMBER 27.

Waratah (s.), for Wide Bay: 2 quarter-casks whisky, 38 bags sugar, J. Watkins; 5 cases genevа, N. Gifford; 1 half-tierce tobacco, J. M. Leigh; 20 cases geneva, 1 hogshead 20 cases brandy, 1 hogshead rum, 20 cases gin, 2 hogsheads ale, 5 quarter-casks wine, Frank, Brothers, and Co.; 42 bags sugar, Colonial Sugar Company; 24 bags sugar, 19 packages oil stores, 15 bags flour, 3 bags rice, 2 packages, 1 chest tea, M. J. Peden; 6 cases wine, M. Baar and Co.; 16 mats sugar, 1 chest tea, Smith, Peate, and Co; 2 hogsheads ale, 4 bags sugar, 2 packages tea, J. Fraser and Co.; 207 bags salt, 75 bundles books, 10 tons flour, Gilchrist, Watt, and Co.; 2 packages boots, Saddington and Sons; 2 packages drapery, Keep and Parsons; 1 truss slops, 20 bags flour, 12 bags salt, 12 bags rice, 1 trunk boots, Ebsworth and Co.; 4 packages, J. Keep; 25 packages oil stores, 1 case whisky, 1 case geneva, 2 casks ale, 3 packages, A. Haydon; 6 pieces casting, Ashdown and Co.; 200 bags flour, Brelliat; 80 bags flour, 3 hogsheads ale, 14 packages oil stores, 22 bags salt, 40 bags rice, 11 bags salt, 8 packages, Armitage and Co.; 1 case, L. Sharwood; 1 hogshead soda water, W. Watson; 1 trunk boots, G. Beer; 1 package ginger, J. Fraser and Co.; 1 case saddlery, D. M'Call; 7 bags maize and onions, W. Short; 1 case, Young, Lark, and Co.; 7 packages oil stores, S. Bennett and Co.; 6 jars limejuice, Dunnicliffe; 10 kegs paint, 7 packages, Lewicks and Piper; 30 bags flour, 6 cases, E. Knox; 2 packages drapery, Prince, Bray, and Ogg; 32 bags salt, 40 bags flour, 4 packages, Montefiore, Graham, and Co.

SHIPS' MAILS.

MAILS will close at the General Post Office as follows:—

FOR CALIFORNIA—By the Mary Agnes, this day, at noon, if not underway.

FOR WELLINGTON AND PORT COOPER.—By the Dart, this day, at 6 p.m.

FOR HOKIANGA.—By the Buonaparte, on Saturday, at noon.

FOR HONGKONG.—By the Governor-General (s.), on Saturday, at noon.

FOR MELBOURNE.—By the Victory (s.), on Saturday, at 2.30 p.m.

CUSTOM HOUSE.—Entered outwards: December 27th, Mary and Rose, schooner, 54 tons, Captain Williams, for Melbourne; Native Lass, schooner, 146 tons, Captain Paton, for Melbourne; Jenny Dove, schooner, 103 tons, Captain M'Dermott, for Melbourne.

MAILS BY THE JEDDO.—The mails by the P. and O. s. Jeddo consists of 164 packages, containing 17,770 letters, 296 books, 18,611 newspapers.

| | Letters. | Books. | Newspapers. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Australian ports ..... ..... | 437 | 11 | 658 |
| Indian ports ..... ..... | 728 | 78 | 793 |
| Northern Countries of Europe ..... ..... | 33 | 0 | 0 |
| Continental States ..... ..... | 476 | 0 | 163 |
| United Kingdom, via Marseilles ... ..... ..... | 2,589 | 72 | 595 |
| United Kingdom, via Southampton..... ..... | 13,407 | 134 | 16,400 |
| Total ..... ..... | 17,770 | 295 | 18,611 |

The Iconium arrived yesterday from San Francisco, making the passage in seventy-two days. She touched at Honolulu, whence she sailed 9th November. From the equator through by the Forgees she had light baffling airs, and in the vicinity of Norfolk Island very heavy gales. Off Howe's Island spoke the Eugenia, of New Bedford, whaling barque.

The Hunter (s.), from Merimbula, brings up 140 bales wool, 506 sides bacon, 276 cheeses, 20 tubs butter, and sundries.

The Governor-General (s.) was towed from the Company's Wharf to Farm Cove, yesterday, previous to her departure for Hongkong.

The Dureta, from Rio Janeiro, arrived last night; she is bound for New Caledonia. No vessels have been sighted on the passage, nor does she bring any report of interest.

[BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.]

MELBOURNE.

ARRIVALS.

December 27.—Matador, from Newcastle.

DEPARTURES.

December 26.—Golden Eagle, for Guam; Alarm, for Newcastle; Jeddo, P. and O. S., for Point de Galle, at 6.35 p.m.
December 27.—Rosetta, for Newcastle.

WINDS AND WEATHER.

December 27.—9 a.m.—Queenscliffe. S., fine.
Albury, N.E., fine.
Kiandra, E., cloudy.
Goulburn, N.E., cloudy.
Yass, S.E., cloudy.
Gundagai, E., cloudy.
Newcastle, E., strong, cloudy.
Bathurst, E., cloudy.

STATE OF THE LINES.

Intercolonial, communication perfect.
Northern " "
Kiandra " "
Western " "
Railway " "
South Head " "
Southern " "
Adelaide " "
Tasmania " interrupted.

NEWCASTLE.

ARRIVAL.

December 25.—B. F. Shaw, 355 tons, M'Clan, from Geelong.

COASTER INWARDS.

December 26.—Edward.

SAN FRANCISCO.

ARRIVAL.

October 1.—Constance, from Auckland, 64 days.

A FRIGHTFUL SCENE—THE ESCAPE OF THE ARABIA.—The San Francisco Herald of 13th October says:—We have already briefly noticed the remarkable escape of the steamship Arabia, on the 3rd of August, from sudden and terrible wreck, on Fastnet Rock, Cape Clear. One of the passengers, a Dr. Smith, gives the following graphic description of the event to the Springfield Republican:—In the midst of life we are in death. Just half an hour ago, while standing on the bow, while running 14 knots an hour under steam and sails, in a thick fog, I heard a loud shout, "Land ahead!" I turned toward the captain, or rather had my eye on him at that moment. His face could not have expressed more horror if he had seen hell's gate opened. He sprang to the engine bell, at the same time shouting "Hard a-port your helm." A counter order of "Starboard" was given. The captain leaped from his footing, shouting so that his voice was heard above the escaping steam "hard a-port, in God's name." His order was obeyed. Then turning forward amongst a hubbub of voices, shouting "We are lost, God have mercy on us." I saw the rocks not twenty feet from the ship's bows. On their top was a lighthouse. As we swung around, it seemed as if we should every moment feel the shock of striking. The huge swell of the Atlantic was reverberating, and the spray flying all around us. The sails took aback, heeling up over so that the deck stood up like the roof of a house. Women were screaming, seamen running to and fro, and above all, the captain and lieutenants shouting so as to be heard above the shrill, escaping steam, "hard a-port, hard, hard!" "Brace around the fore yard!" "Let fly the halyards and sheets fore and aft!" I stepped abaft the foremast to be out of the way of its fall, and waited for the shock. But

"There's a sweet little cherub who sits up aloft,
And looks after the life of poor Jack."

We approached, as all agree, within ten feet of the rock, and then began to recede. Just realise that there were only ten feet between us and eternity. It is the opinion of seafaring men on board, that the ship, if she had struck, would have sunk in five minutes, for it is a sharp ledge of rocks, six or seven miles from any shore, and deep water all around. The boats could not have been got ready, and if they could they never would have lived in the heavy surf. No; if she had gone ten feet farther, we should have been almost instantly precipitated into a raging sea, where six or seven miles from land, in a dense fog, few of us would have escaped. We should have all perished as miserably as did those in the Hungarian. Three seconds more would have tolled the death knell of most, if not all of us, for we were enveloped in fog, and far from land, and also no boat at the lighthouse, that if we had seized fragments of the wreck, they would have been torn from our grasp by the sea, boiling as in a cauldron, over the sunken reefs, hours before our fate could have been known. I knew there was no time to run below for life preservers—which are hung up by each berth—and so contented myself with just stringing up my nerves for a buffet with the waves. For three minutes, I can assure you man showed what he is when expecting the "King of Terrors." Two or three ladies took it heroically, and seemed to draw in strength from the scene around them. It was a terrible moment for the captain—Captain Stone, of the Royal Navy,—for as we swung around the sails taking aback and healing us over, everybody expected to feel the grinding crash beneath our feet. I felt for him, for all his great rashness, and gladly say that to his decision in our hour of need we owe our lives. The rock is called Fastnet Rock, and upon it is the Cape Clear Lighthouse. A subscription is now being taken up among the passengers for the seaman who first shouted "breakers ahead." I never shall forget to my dying day the face of the captain when he heard that wild shout. I have seen distress and pain in all their forms, but never a face like that, so full of horror, perfect agony and crushing responsibility. The cry of "breakers ahead," the stopping of the engines, the escape of the steam, and the shifting the helm, all occurred in one second. It seemed at the instant as though it was utterly impossible to stop the ship's way in time to save us; but God rules. He put forth his hand, and the vessel, trembling as with mortal fear, yielded to her powerful engines, receded from the rock, and we were saved.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—There is very little probability of the Great Eastern making another voyage during the present year. Captain Vine Hall, Mr. Thomas Bold, the manager, and Mr. M'Lennan, the engineer, have been discharged, and but for the presence of Mr. Davies, the mate, and about a dozen men, the Great Ship might be called the "abandoned." The officers of the shipping department of the Board of Trade have, it is stated, withdrawn or suspended the certificate to the ship. Finding it impossible to get the vessel ready for sea without a much larger expenditure of capital, the directors lest week invited some of the largest shareholders to a conference, to consider what course was the best to be taken under the circumstances. The statement made was to the effect that a further sum of £18,000 would be required to be expended before the ship was again fit for a voyage; that this outlay was necessary for the purpose of laying down a new deck, for providing warming apparatus—for the ship has not a single stove in any of her cabins—and for repairing the sternpost, screw-shaft, and bearings, and some other defects in the engines. It was also stated that the arbitrators had awarded £18,000 to Mr. Scott Russell, but the directors had been advised to resist the payment on the ground that the award included various sums for matters which were not mentioned in the order of reference. There were also various other liabilities outstanding, and it was intimated that the voyage to America had resulted in a considerable loss. Under these circumstances it was considered advisable to reduce all the current expenses of the ship to the lowest possible scale, and to lay the ship up for the present. In accordance with this resolution, the captain, engineer, and manager, as we have already stated, have been discharged, and a full statement of the affairs of the company is shortly to be laid before the proprietors. It is but six months since an additional sum of £160,000 was raised as preference capital, carrying 17½ per cent. dividend. The last call of 2s. 6d. per share is now in course of being made, but the liabilities, it is stated, exceed the sum to be raised by this instalment. Of the £ 00,000 subscribed, £40,000, with interest, was required to pay off the mortgage before the ship could leave Southampton; upwards of £30,000 was expended in the contracts for getting the ship ready for sea. There were some pressing liabilities to be discharged, and there are some claims which are still pending in arbitration. Over and above this preference stock there is the further demand of £18,000 for getting the ship ready for sea, and the disputed claim of Mr. Scott Russell. Nothing has yet transpired as to the mode by which the directors expect to be able to raise additional capital; but it appears highly possible that another generation of shareholders will yet be appealed to.—Observer, 13th October.

## PORT OF SYDNEY.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.—DECEMBER 27.

IMPORTS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apparel, 2 cases ... | £17 | Herrings, 220 cases ... | £345 |
| Brooms, 22 cases ... | 390 | Hides, 8 ... | 11 |
| Boots, 65 trunks ... | 680 | Hardware, 181 packages | 1457 |
| Books, 1 case ... | 20 | Oars, 610 ... | 130 |
| Bacon, 26 packages ... | 130 | Oil, 20 casks ... | 30 |
| Brandy, 16 packages ... | 151 | Pepper, 720 bags ... | 1500 |
| Castor oil, 25 cases ... | 28 | Pickles, 50 cases ... | 50 |
| Coconut oil, 9 tuns ... | 270 | Pianos, 7 cases ... | 450 |
| Cards, 1 case ... | 7 | Rice, 95 tons ... | 1500 |
| Clothing, 4 cases ... | 50 | Rattans, 3380 bundles ... | 100 |
| Cigars, 103 cases ... | 2300 | Skins, 1 bundle ... | 15 |
| Cheese, 76 casks ... | 268 | Saddlery, 8 packages ... | 480 |
| Coffee, 787 bags ... | 1070 | Shingles, 10,000 ... | 50 |
| Cordage, 448 packages ... | 530 | Spices, 47 cases ... | 150 |
| Clocks, 195 packages ... | 508 | Sago, 642 boxes ... | 900 |
| Chicory, 109 cases ... | 400 | Salmon, 16 packages ... | 45 |
| Corn shellers, 30 ... | 45 | Stationery, 6 cases ... | 78 |
| Dried apples, 56 packages | 50 | Sugar, 5¼ tons ... | 250 |
| Drapery, 4 packages ... | 101 | Tea, 16,856 packages ... | 425,309 |
| Earthenware, 2 packages | 18 | Tobacco, 334 packages ... | 6730 |
| Effects, 9 packages ... | 141 | Timber, 20,008 feet ... | 100 |
| Haberdashery, 7 packages | 350 | Tools, 60 cases ... | 240 |
| Hatchets, 25 cases ... | 140 | Wine, 12 packages ... | 86 |
| Horse, 1 ... | 80 | Wool, 141 bales ... | 4280 |
| Hams, 22 packages ... | 175 | | |

EXPORTS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Arrowroot, 2 cases ... | £4 | Jewellery, 1 case ... | £13 |
| Ale, 32 packages ... | 113 | Leather goods, 3 packages ... | 120 |
| Bran, 10 bags ... | 30 | Mustard, 4 cases ... | 8 |
| Beef, 450 tierces ... | 1700 | Maize, 17 bushels ... | 3 |
| Butter, 25 kegs ... | 75 | Oats, 630 bags ... | 300 |
| Boots, 3 trunks ... | 47 | Onions, 2 bags ... | 4 |
| Brandy, 23 packages ... | 68 | Opium, 1 case ... | 120 |
| Claret, 4 cases ... | 4 | Oil stores, 14 packages ... | 35 |
| Champagne, 15 cases ... | 30 | Rice, half ton ... | 13 |
| Chicory, 12 cases ... | 60 | Rum, 5 hogsheads ... | 62 |
| Coffee roaster, 1 ... | 40 | Sovereigns ... | 15000 |
| Cheese, 2 cases ... | 5 | Soap, 100 boxes ... | 150 |
| Candles, 50 cases ... | 80 | Saddlery, 4 cases ... | 185 |
| Coal, 588 tons ... | 588 | Sago, 5 cases ... | 25 |
| Corks, 3 bales ... | 15 | Sugar, 15 tons ... | 483 |
| Drugs, 7 cases ... | 63 | Tobacco, 6 packages ... | 116 |
| Drapery, 12 packages ... | 327 | Tallow, 38 casks ... | 240 |
| Flour, 51 tons ... | 967 | Timber, 30,000 ... | 240 |
| Fruit, 20 packages ... | 28 | Tea, 197 packages ... | 994 |
| Groceries, 18 packages ... | 38 | Whisky, 5 packages ... | 16 |
| Geneva, 70 packages ... | 71 | Walnuts, 4 bags ... | 30 |
| Hams, 2 cases ... | 10 | Wine, 57 packages ... | 452 |
| Hats, 1 case ... | 25 | | |
| Hardware, 11 packages... | 74 | | |

## SYDNEY HEADS.

| | TIME. | WINDS. | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec. 27. | 8·30 a.m. | E.S.E. | Moderate, and cloudy. |
| | Noon. | E.S.E. | Ditto, and ditto. |
| | 5 p.m. | S.E. | Ditto, and ditto. |

## DIARY.

MEMORANDA TO THE NEXT PUBLICATION.

| 1860. December. | | SUN Rises | SUN Sets | HIGH WATER. Morn. | HIGH WATER. After |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28 | FRIDAY | 4 53 | 7 7 | 9 6 | 9 25 |

MOON.—Full, 28th instant, 1h. 21m. p.m.

# The Sydney Morning Herald.

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1860.

IN another column our readers will see an appeal which has been forwarded through the GENERAL-GENERAL for contributions to the British Syrian Relief Fund. His EXCELLENCY put it into the hands of his Worship the MAYOR, and by that gentleman it has been placed in our hands for publication.

From time to time, we have presented to our readers the mournful story of suffering and cruelty, which has roused the indignation and provoked the vengeance of the Western nations. It was right and natural that those who first heard the loud wail of the Christian population should make efforts for its relief, both to rescue it from the grasp of infuriate bigots and to afford succour in a season of such extraordinary distress. It seems as if the pages of religious bigotry would never close, as if the savage antipathies of race and religion were always to offer spectacles disgraceful to our common nature, and fill the breast of the philanthropist with despair.

The persecution of the Christians by the Turks forms a part of their creed. Other religionists deem themselves justified in devoting to the anger of GOD, and the penalties of future punishment, those who differ from them in religious opinions; but the Turk considers the sword as placed in his hands to slay, wherever he can do so with impunity, those who hold a faith different from his own. "Tribute or the sword!" "Spoliation or bloodshed!" Such were the watchwords of this terrible religion, which for ages has devastated a part of the world once the cradle of science, and hallowed by events most interesting to humanity.

Doubtless this last outbreak, from its treachery and cruelty, is likely to leave a lasting impression on the Western nations. It may arouse some controlling power which shall place the Turk in his proper position, and wrest from his hand the mischievous sovereignty which he has so often employed in murder and pillage.

It is, however, only just to trace much of this misery to that anarchy which seems indigenous to these fair and ancient regions. There is no Government strong enough to preserve society or to prevent the ebullition of the ambition of the chieftain, and the jealousy and malignity of the sects. First there is the license of petty chiefs obstructing industry, depriving it of its proper reward, and inflicting all sorts of insult and injury upon subject populations; then we have the convulsion of civil war in which both parties rival each other in the cruelty of their revenge; then the incoming of some stronger power by which chastisement is inflicted, not upon the guilty mufti and rulers but upon the lower classes of the population who happen to be netted in the seine of doubtful justice. Thus the accounts of massacre have been followed by reports of sanguinary executions. But there is too great reason to fear that the more guilty have escaped the punishment, and that if the pressure of foreign influence is withdrawn persecution will be revived, and end in similar massacres, followed by a similar ineffectual retribution.

The jealousy of French interference is not unnatural when the traditional policy of France is taken into account. But looking at the question apart from European politics and the supposed balance of power, who could doubt that it would be the greatest possible blessing were the strength of a western nation exerted to hold down both the Turkish and the Christian populations until they learn some of the first principles of humanity and respect each other's rights as men. The weakening of the Turkish authority and the approaching destruction of the Ottoman empire are the natural results of its constitution. A future generation will wonder how it was possible for the strong nations of Europe to tolerate an effete Government, which shelters a ferocious superstition, and devastates rather than rules some of the fairest portions of the world.

We lay these papers respecting the Syrian Fund before our readers, in the hope that they may be induced to contribute to the relief of the Syrian population. We must leave it to our leading men to determine whether, considering our distance and our circumstances, we can well interpose? This seems to be a case demanding rather the interference of Governments. The Turkish authorities, who profess to deplore these cruelties, are bound to indemnify the losers, and to preserve them from that misery which Moslem cruelty has brought upon the Christian population. England and France both have resources at command to minister that aid which a distant community like our own cannot possibly provide. In charity, as in all other things, our efforts must bear some relation to our power, and to the various claims which fall upon us. There are many features of that dark picture drawn in the circular and letters of the Association, which we cannot possibly soften down or alleviate. The slain and the captive are beyond the reach of our help. It is not in our power to rebuild the waste of these incendiary revolutions. All that can be done is to give food to the hungry. But unless that be already supplied, our hands would be stretched forth in vain.

There is, however, a point of view which may commend this case to this community, and to every other. A contribution to signal distress is not to be regarded merely as a question of money. It implies a sympathy;—it connects the various portions of the human family, and establishes a moral confederation most likely to increase its strength and to diminish its suffering. It is a sign that we share in the emotions of the whole civilized world, and that we are not indisposed to accept our proportion of that burden which is cast upon the humanity of nations. Much it is unlikely that we shall be able to perform. Much, we do not think, is required, considering our circumstances, the local claims which are made upon us and the distance of the population requiring instant succour. But no one will doubt that any effort of this kind, as it contemplates a noble object, will be returned in blessings on the people who promote it.

We see from the list of the Committee of the Relief Fund that it comprehends all sections of the community, and embraces every form of faith. Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE is the president, and Sir MOSES MONTEFIORE is the chairman. Those who are acquainted with the religious world will see that conspicuous members from every Christian sect, as well as of the Jewish persuasion, have united in this labour of love.

THE electric telegraph is one of those inventions which seem capable of an indefinite development for the convenience of mankind. It is so cheap, so simple, so easily used, and is so invaluable for saving time, that it is impossible to foresee the extent to which it will come into use. Hardly a mail reaches us from England without bringing some intelligence of some improvement or some new application, some cheapening of the cost of construction, or some simplification of the working. A company was lately formed in London to send messages to any part of the United Kingdom for a uniform price, on the same principle as that on which the penny post is conducted. Thus, a minimum message of twelve words, at a paid price of a penny a word, could be sent for a shilling to Falmouth, to Aberdeen, to Cork, or to Londonderry—a far less price than was charged for a letter before ROWLAND HILL's reforms, and in a time incomparably shorter. Such an arrangement would, to a large extent, take the business now done by the Post Office, though without diminishing the actual number of letters despatched. On the contrary, the two methods of intercommunication will probably supply material for each other. The telegraph messages will occasion letters, and letters will occasion telegraphs. The multiplicity of lines that will spread like a network over the country will render anything like a stoppage of communication impossible; for if one line meets with an accident causing an interruption, or requires repairs, there will be a dozen alternative lines available for the transmission of messages.

In the papers received by the last mail we find an account of another company established specially with a view to the wants of large cities and their suburbs, and intended to bring the use of telegraphs into every office that has sufficient business to support one. It is called the "Universal Private Telegraph Company," and undertakes to "lay on" a telegraph to any private dwelling, just as gas or water is laid on at present, and that too much more cheaply and with far less mess.

The company carries its wires over the housetops. If this were done in the ordinary way, the number of iron wires would be very great, and their arrangement very complicated, and they would be frequently fouling one another, and so interrupting the circuit. But only two wires are to be seen, and these are not used for messages. They are merely for the purpose of sustaining a cable, and in that cable are contained the wires that carry the messages. The cable is constructed something after the fashion of those used for submarine purposes. Every separate wire in it is insulated. Copper being a much better conductor of electricity than iron is, a very thin copper wire will serve instead of the thick one in ordinary use, and there is no strain upon it, as it is suspended horizontally. In this way a rope, containing no less than thirty-two separate wires, is constructed of a size not exceeding three-eights of an inch in diameter. Thicker cables containing forty and even a hundred separate wires are also being constructed. The company triangulates the whole district over which it operates, the straining posts at which the lines intersect each other being about a mile apart, so that no house in the district can be further than half a mile from the telegraphic "main." At every straining post cables converge from six different directions, so that every one part of the district can be easily connected with every other part. Each post is also furnished with a "connecting box and insulated screws," for the purpose of connecting wires and carrying the continuation to any particular house. Under this system, every man will be his own telegraphist. He will not have to trust his message to any company and wait in doubt as to whether it has been sent. He will send it himself at once, and know that it has been received. All that he will be indebted to the company for will be the exclusive use of a wire, for which he will pay an annual rent. The project seems to be very favourably received. Mr. REUTER, the telegraph agent, is to have his office thus connected with those of all the daily newspapers, so that his continental intelligence, when received, will be instantly transmitted to them all. The police stations are to be all united together, and the fire-brigade offices also. The Houses of Parliament and the office of the Queen's printers have also been tied together. The Dock Companies have taken advantage of it. Banks will establish communication with their local branch offices; large shopkeepers with their branch establishments; while many suburban residents will be able thus to hold communication with their places of business at any hour of the day or night. The convenienience will in all cases be enormous, and the expense will not be large. In some instances, a few neighbouring merchants may be able to club together to rent the use of a wire.

It may be said that the art of operating on a telegraphic instrument requires to be specially learnt, and that the bulk of people either cannot or will not take the trouble to learn it. But this difficulty is said to be completely got over by the use of an alphabetical instrument, so that every one who can read can either send or receive a message. No batteries are required to work the instrument that is provided, and, therefore, no scientific initiation is requisite to fit any one to manage the apparatus. Anybody can use it.

At this rate a telegraph instrument will be almost as familiar an article of household furniture as a bell rope. It will become an ornament on the mantelpiece, like the eight-day clock. The man of business who retires to his private residence need not fear having forgotten to say something to his head clerk, for he can send a message down to him at any time, or to be ready for him the first thing in the morning on his return to office. In business hours orders can be received, transmitted, and executed with great punctuality. The operations of business will be cheapened, labour will be saved, and the public will gain in the distribution of the benefit.

## BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

### KIANDRA.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.]

Thursday, three p.m.

I HAVE just received letters from two experienced miners at Crackenback. They say that the diggings will be a failure. The gold is only to be obtained in the first foot of the gravel, and nothing on the bottom. The population is decreasing fast. The river will be turned in another fortnight. Many were making their way to the Lambing Flat diggings.

### YASS.

Thursday, four p.m.

LACHLAN ELECTION.

At five of the polling places Mr. J. N. Ryan had 150 votes over Mr. Martin.

### MELBOURNE.

Thursday, nine p.m.

The Escorts have brought in 38,072 ounces. Weather warm and fine. Holidays still kept up.

## LAW.

### SUPREME COURT.—THURSDAY.

SPECIAL SITTINGS IN BANCO.

BEFORE the full Court.

OSBORNE V. BALME.

This was an application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council in a case where a decree by the Primary Judge had been sustained, on appeal, by the full Court.

Mr. Gordon appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Blake for the respondent.

Leave to appeal was granted upon the following terms, viz, That the respondent should be permitted ad interim to obtain judgment and its fruits, but should give security for costs and for abiding the result of the appeal. Appellant to give security for the prosecution of his appeal and for costs. The amounts of the several securities were fixed.

HIGGINS V. SINGLE.

This was also an application for leave to appeal against a recent judgment of the Court in Banco.

Mr. Fancett appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Isaacs for the respondent.

Leave was granted, execution to go on respondent's entering into security for double costs and £150 extra. Appellant to give security for prosecuting the appeal, and for costs to the extent of £150.

IN INSOLVENCY.

Before the Primary Judge.

Argument in the long pending case of Church v. Ellis occupied the remainder of the day.

In the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

INSOLVENCY GENERALIS.

It is ordered that the Court shall sit as in Banco, on Monday, the 31st instant, at 11 a.m., to hear the appeal case Speer and another v. The Hunter River New Steam Navigation Company.

J. N. DICKINSON.
SAMUEL FREDERICK MILFORD.
EDWARD WISE.

### INSOLVENCY COURT.

THURSDAY.

BEFORE the Chief Commissioner.

In the estate of Malcolm and Co., a third meeting. Four debts were proved; the official assignee read his report, and insolvents were allowed to retain their household furniture, wearing apparel, and masonic insignia.

In the estate of Hugh Maxwell, an adjourned certificate meeting. Mr. Husband appeared in support of the application, and Mr. Hellyer on behalf of the opposing creditors. Finding that it would be impossible to go into the evidence to-day, on account of the pressure of other business, his Honor postponed the meeting until the 1st February.

Certificates were granted to John Handley, William George Ainsworth, Fitzarthur Hogue, Thomas Ford, and John Bevan.

The application of Patrick Harrington Kain was refused, it having been shown by evidence that there is against him an unsatisfied judgment in an action for false imprisonment.

The application of Oliver Maxwell stands over for enquiry into a bill of sale.

In the estate of John Skinner, a third meeting. Insolvent resides on the Richmond, and was not present. Two debts were proved; and the assignee, after having read his report, was directed to realise the assets, by either public or private sale, but if in Sydney by auction.

In the estate of Thomas H. Wilkinson a special meeting. The meeting confirmed the acceptance of insolvent's offer (made at a former meeting) of 5s. in the pound on the concurrent claims, preferent claims being paid in full by Mr John Campbell's bills, at six, nine and twelve months date.

In the estate of William and Thomas Chippendale, a third meeting. One debt was proved, and the assignee's report was read. Insolvents were not present, nor any creditors to give directions respecting the estate.

In the estate of James Rice, a third meeting. Nothing done.

In the estate of Henry Elvey, a third meeting. Insolvent was allowed his household furniture and wearing apparel.

In the estate of William Grisdale, a second meeting. Insolvent was examined by Mr. Husband for the official assignee, and the meeting terminated.

SURRENDER.

John Reed, of Kiandra, storekeeper. Liabilities £2452. Assets—value of real property (mortgaged) £1630; of personal property £479; outstanding debts £232: total £2341. Deficit £111—Mr. Mackenzie, official assignee.

MEETINGS OF CREDITORS.—FRIDAY.

John Keary, third, half-past 10.
Joseph Dhanis, single, 11.
Thomas W. Wallace, adjourned examination, 11.
John Pearson, third, half-past 12.
Henry C. Hudson, adjourned second, 2.
George Cobbas, adjourned examination, 2.
Joel H. Asher, second, 2.
Eleazar Davis, special for proof of debts, half-past 2.
William Wilson, second, 3.
Julius Franklin, first, quarter-past 3.
Mitchell and Co., second, half-past 3.

### CENTRAL POLICE COURT.

THURSDAY.

BEFORE the Mayor and the Police Magistrate, with Messrs. G. Hill, Asher, Lenehan, Cook, Hirst, Oatley, Smithers, Peden.

Twelve drunkards were fined—some 10s. and others 20s. each, with the usual alternative; and several who, while under the influence of drink, were either disorderly in their conduct or obscene in their language, were sentenced to pay 20s. each or to be imprisoned forty-eight hours.

Thomas Philten was charged with having assaulted Mahomed Hassein, a native of Bombay, and a domestic servant of Captain Somes, of the Jeddo steamship. Complainant, who was sworn by Mr. Stubbs on the Koran, deposed that he was in Campbell-street with his master's child, and passed defendant, who was sitting near a quantity of potatoes; he had proceeded, but a short distance when several potatoes, one of which struck him on the head, were thrown at him by defendant, who took them from a sack by his side; putting down his master's child, he went back to enquire why he so annoyed him, and was met by a volley of abuse, the mildest epithet being "you black beast," which provoked him to strike him a blow with an umbrella; defendant then struck him with his fist in the face, kicked him, and tore his clothes. Defendant called witnesses to show that the potatoes were not thrown by defendant, but by some other man. The Justices found the defendant guilty, and sentenced him to pay a penalty of twenty shillings, or to be imprisoned three days.

William Henry Bracher was charged with having, on the 19th instant, assaulted Annie M'Donell. The complainant deposed that she had for some time lived with defendant as his wife; between one and two o'clock on the 19th instant, defendant came home to dinner, which, as she had been gossiping and drinking with a neighbour, was not ready for him; fearing a beating, she secreted herself under a bed in a neighbour's house; he looked for and found her, dragged her by the hair from her hiding-place into his own house, and three times threw her upon a sofa; a man named Ward came in, begged defendant not to kill her, and carried her up stairs, where defendant gave her a kick from which she is still suffering. Other witnesses corroborated this statement. Their Worships sentenced defendant to be imprisoned, with hard labour, one calendar month.

Joseph Walsh was charged with having assaulted John Turner. Complainant, who is the proprietor of Skinner's Hotel, at the corner of George-street and Hunter-street, deposed that defendant came to his house and called for liquor, which seeing that he had had more than enough already, he declined to supply; defendant became noisy abusive and threatening, vowing that he would have either drink or complainant's life before he left the house; complainant went round the counter to put him out of the house, when the defendant snatched up a pot, and therewith struck both him (the complainant) and Mrs. Turner; at the same time making use of most vile language; fortunately three or four officers of police, attracted by the disturbance, came shortly to the house or defendant would unquestionably have committed some serious mischief. To be imprisoned seven days.

John Devitt and Michael Devitt were brought before the Bench by constable White, with having assaulted him in the execution of his duty; they were also charged by sergeant Duffy with having assaulted him and torn his coat; and a third charge was preferred by Ann Smith, of Castlereagh-street, with having wilfully broken the fence in front of her house, a pane of glass in the window, and a looking-glass, her property. Mrs. Smith deposed that between one and two o'clock this morning she was aroused by a knocking at her door, and a demand for admittance; she refused to open the door, and the men (she heard the voices of two or three) went away displeased; about two o'clock she was awoke by the smash of glass; she arose, found the fragments of a looking-glass on the floor which had been on a table before the window, and a square of glass in the window broken; looking out she saw three men (the defendants being two of the three) passing out at the gate; some palings had been broken from the fence; and the damage she estimated at 25s. Constable White deposed that between two and three o'clock this morning he was on duty in Liverpool-street, near Hyde Park, and was met by the defendant, John Devitt, stopped, and asked the way to Phœnix Wharf, and witness directed him; defendant laughed, and witness said he saw that he was humbugging him; to which he replied "What will it be if I knock your head off," at the same time delivering a blow on the head with his fist; he then seized hold of witness, called "Mike," and the other defendant came forward; the two then assaulted and beat him, knocked him down, kicked him, and leaped upon him until blood issued from his mouth, nose, and ears; one saying to the other "kill him, he is a —— constable;" Michael said "he cannot say that we are drunk;" he managed to regain his feet, and held one with each hand until the arrival of sergeant Duffy and other assistance, when the defendants were secured; they were afterwards charged by Mrs. Smith with having destroyed her property; the defendants appeared to him to be quite sober; he (witness) is suffering much pain from the injuries inflicted by defendants, and does not expect to be able to go on duty for some time. Sergeant Duffy deposed that about two o'clock in the morning he saw the defendants and another man, one of whom said shortly after passing, "That is a —— policeman—I will hit him with a stone," but nothing was done, nor did he take any notice of what he heard; very shortly afterward he heard a noise in Liverpool-street, and proceeding thither found constable White against a fence with each hand holding a prisoner (the defendants) each of whom in return was striking and beating him; he ran up and exclaimed "Do not murder the man

## BRITISH SYRIAN RELIEF FUND.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,—I am desired by the Committee of the British Syrian Relief Fund, to transmit to you the enclosed papers, relative to the terrible distress now prevailing in Syria. You will see the noble efforts which are being made in England for the object, and also the principle of complete impartiality in the relief of the sufferers, which the committee have laid down for the administration of the funds entrusted to them.

It has appeared to the committee very desirable that the colonies and India should have the opportunity of assisting in this benevolent and most urgent object.

The active and generous aid afforded to the committee by members of her Majesty's Government, sufficiently demonstrates their approval of our proposal to bring the subject before the communities dependant on the British Crown, through her Majesty's representatives in each country.

We therefore venture to ask you to consider the propriety of placing the enclosed documents before the leading promoters of humane and benevolent objects in the districts over which your official influence more especially extends, with a view to their forming committees to second the efforts of the Syrian Relief Committee in London.

We shall be thankful to receive any communication that you may think fit to send us in reply to this letter.

I have the honour to be,
Your most obedient humble servant,
CYRUS R. EDMONDS, secretary.

October 2nd, 1860.

The committee have received the following interesting communications from Syria:—

"Beirut, August 23rd, 1860.

"At a meeting of the Anglo-American Relief Committee, the following statement and report were signed and ordered to be printed for circulation in England and America.

"NEVIN MOORE, H. B. M. Consul-General,
"President.

"The Anglo-American Relief Committee deem it due to the British Syrian Relief Fund Committee, and to other committees and individuals who either have contributed, or propose to contribute, and to the Syrian sufferers from the present war, to keep them correctly informed as to its operations, and also as to the urgency of the distress that calls for relief. It is to secure these important objects that the following statements are made.

"Our committee originated in a stern and terrible necessity. Many thousands of plundered helpless refugees fled suddenly into our city from the mountains seeking protection from the devouring sword, and calling for food and shelter. The emergency was so pressing, unexpected, and overwhelming, that our first circular was sent off even before the organisation of the committee could be completed, and before the full extent of the calamity was known. A second issue of the circular, however, was put forth as soon after the first as possible, showing not only the full organisation of the committee, but also the immense addition to the amount of distress and suffering, in consequence of the massacre at Damascus. The subjoined report of our sub-committee will show that the work of distributing food, clothing, and medicine to the sufferers is now carried forward on a scale, small at the beginning, but which has rapidly expanded into dimensions quite beyond our ability, and revealing, in its help progress, a mass of destitution and misery which is truly appalling.

"The basis of our organisation is wholly unsectarian, and broad enough in its spirit and design to embrace all classes of sufferers from this war. Christians only are mentioned in our circular, and that simply because they are the only applicants for aid. Not a Druse, Mohammedan, or Jew has applied for assistance. The Druses remain masters of their half of the mountains; and from the enormous plunder of the Christians are richer than before the outbreak. The same is true of the Moslems who have taken part in the war; while the Jews have nowhere been either plundered or molested, except the very small community of Deir el Kamar. Of the 7000 who now receive daily aid from your charity, a very large majority are Maronites; the next most numerous class are Greek Catholics; a considerable number are of the Greek Church; while only about a hundred are Protestants. Should the changing fortunes of war reduce Druses, Moslems, Jews, or any other class of our population to the same destitution, we should be ready to extend to them the same kind of aid that we now give to the Christians.

"We would earnestly guard our patrons against the impression that the necessity for these charitable contributions will soon cease by the restoration of peace, and the re-establishment of Government in this country. On the contrary, the number of the destitute is daily multiplying on our hands, and the suffering is becoming more and more stringent. Those who had a few piastres on their persons when they fled from their burning habitations have spent them; the 20,000 who escaped into the small district of Kesrawan have exhausted the resources of their brethren there, and are now drifting back upon us by thousands, seeking shelter and crying for bread, while long caravans from Damascus block up our streets with the despairing remnants of her Christian population. Many are sick; the children are dying at an alarming rapidity in our hot climate; epidemics are spreading among the half-fed, half-clothed, half-sheltered multitudes; and unless better food, clothing, and medical care are provided, the victims of disease will ere long outnumber those of the sword. To alleviate this accumulating misery, we distribute bread daily to more than 7000 poor; we have procured houses and tents as far as possible for shelter; we have voted to purchase and distribute, with the co-operation of a Ladies' Auxiliary Committee, 3000 garments; we have commenced a hospital for the sick; and opened a soup-kitchen chiefly, though not exclusively, for their benefit, and for mothers who nurse, hoping to save some of the children by giving to the mothers more nourishing food than mere dry bread.

"It must be obvious that these various operations, founded by urgent necessity to meet the wants of famished hands, must require a large and steady income. Is there any reason to hope that the calls for aid will materially diminish before October, and, alas! we fear that the most pinching and ruinous poverty will be felt during the latter part of autumn, and through the rainy months of winter. Let not, we pray, the benevolent in England and America relax their efforts to save from starvation these remnants of Christian populations, rescued from the sword of Turkish ferocity and Mohammedan fanatism. We will persist under the perplexing and laborious work of distribution; but we cannot give more than is received, and when your donations fail, our distribution must cease.

"We gladly embrace this opportunity to notice the labours of others in this same work of charity. Many ladies and gentlemen have distributed food and clothing from their houses; and not a few native Christians, and even some Moslems, have received bounties, and to the extent of their means fed, sheltered, and clothed them. The Turkish Government has done the same to thousands, daily from Rasheiya, Hasbeiya, Deir el Kamar, and Damascus. From Greece and all parts of Europe liberal aid has been sent. Much has been regularly and largely distributed by the French Consul-General, and by the Lazarist Society; and the Sisters of Charity have, from the first, displayed that activity, energy, and devotion to the claims of the suffering for which they are so well distinguished. But it must be remembered that of these sources of supply, some have already failed, others are fluctuating and uncertain, and all together, working up to their utmost capacity, still leave an immense surplus of destitution and distress, for which we can only drop the tear of sincere but unavailing sympathy.

"Summary View of the Operations of the Sub-Committee.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of persons assisted daily from 23rd to 21st July | 393 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 21st to 25th July | 653 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 25th July to 1st August | 810 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 1st to 6th August | 1453 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 6th to 8th August | 3321 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 8th to 14th August | 5042 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 14th to 17th August | 6105 |
| Do. do. ditto ditto from 17th to 22nd August | 7105 |
| Total cost up to this date for food, clothing, bedding, shelter, and medicine | P. 60532 |
| Grants have also been made to the Sisters of Charity, to aid them in their distribution, amounting to | P. 4700 |
| About £543 10s., or | P. 65232 |

"Beyrout, August 22nd, 1860."

Extract from letter of the Rev. Dr. Thomson, dated Beirut, August, 1860.

"Since this Report was written, my branch of the work has rapidly grown on our hands. Our hospital is full, and multitudes of sick cannot be admitted or attended to in any way. The clothing department reveals frightful nakedness, and tasks all our sensibilities as well as abilities. The daily distributions are made to more than 8000. Our sub-committee, upon which devolves the working of this enormous charity, will have before it this afternoon applications to aid at least 8000 more, most of them at Sidon, the remnants of populations gathered there from the regions about Hastingo. At our last sitting we had an appeal for 3000 at Besherrah, near the cedars of Lebanon, who had fled thither from Baalbek, and the villages of the north part of the Bukaah. Thus the work grows to proportions so gigantic as quite to confound and bewilder us. We are spending at a rate that awakens fear as to funds in future. The beginnings were small; but to-day we work on a scale that overruns £500 a week, nor can I see how to lessen the outlay for many weeks to come. For this money we depend almost entirely on the princely liberality of England. America is far removed from the scene of trouble, and comparatively few of our people have ever had occasion to instruct themselves in the affairs of Syria. Many will, no doubt, contribute; but their aid will be long in reaching us, and multitudes will perish if we have to wait for a response from the United States."

President—Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. Chairman of the Executive Committee, Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart. Committee:—The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Cianricarde, the Lord Bishop of London, the Earl of Malmesbury, Earl of Shaftesbury, Viscount Eversley, Lord Calthorpe, Lord Ebury, Lord Stanley, M.P.; Sir S. M. Peto, Bart., M.P.; Sir Culling Eardley, Bart.; the Lord Mayor of London; Baron L. Rothschild, M.P.; Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P.; Mr. Alderman Salomons, M.P.; John Labouchere, Esq.; P. Ralli, Esq.; R. Monckton Miles, Esq., M.P.; G. W. J. Repton, Esq., M.P; H. Danby Seymour, Esq., M.P.; T. Baring, Esq., M.P.; W. Tite, Esq., M.P.; Adam Black, Esq., M.P.; General Peel, M.P.; G. Hadfield, Esq., M.P.; J. C. Ewart, Esq., M.P.; T. Bazley, Esq., M.P.; Edward Baines, Esq., M.P.; Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart.; Sir J. Fergusson, Bart., M.P.; H. W. Freeland, Esq., M.P.; Hon. William Ashley; Sir Walter James, Bart.; J. P. Kennard, Esq.; John Dillon, Esq.; Colonel Gawler; H. Austen Layard, Esq.; W. Holt Yates, Esq., M.D.; Colonel Walker, R.A.; Thomas Hodgkin, Esq., M.D.; Frederick Ruth, Esq.; R. N. Fowler, Esq.; Sir James Duke, Bart, M.P.; Sir Joseph Panton, M.P.; Sir J. V. Shelley, Bart, M.P.; S. Gurney, Esq., M.P.; Darby Griffith, Esq., M.P.; H. E. Gurney, Esq.; Adair Crawford, Esq., M.D.; Coleridge J. Kennard, Esq.; James Cook, Esq.; Admiral Sir C. Napier, M.P.; M. Spartali, Esq.

"The British public have by this time become fully informed, by newspaper and parliamentary reports, of the almost unexampled extent of the destitution and misery which have been occasioned by the late frightful massacres of the Christians in Syria and the Holy Land, and which plead most impressively for immediate and effectual succour.

"It is needless to dwell on the fearfulness of the tragedy. The carnage of Lucknow and Oude was not equal to that of Lebanon and Damascus. The male Christian population in some places is not decimated but exterminated. The Christian quarter of Damascus is not plundered—it is rased. Their merchant princes are begging their bread; the widows, orphans, and helpless, homeless wanderers are reckoned by thousands. Women are basely sold to unclean, savage purchasers. Compared to these scenes the chivalrous wars of Europe were very mercy.

"It rests with the Governments of Europe to punish the guilty, to devise measures for restoring permanent tranquility to those regions endeared by so many sacred associations, and to prevent religious persecution in the land of the patriarchs and prophets, and the birth place of Christianity.

"But upon the humane people of this and other countries rests another duty—a duty which is at the same time a privilege. We have to clothe the naked, to feed the starving, to heal the wounded, to shelter the houseless. Her Majesty the Queen, her Royal Consort, and H. R. H. the Duchess of Kent, have set a noble example, by making liberal contributions to the Syrian Fund. The great houses of this city, the merchants, traders, and bankers of London, have taken the lead, by donations proportioned to the emergency, varying from £300 to £100 and less. Her Majesty's Ministers and the leading statesmen of all parties are contributors, and several are members of the committee. It is earnestly and confidently hoped that all classes in the United Kingdom will respond to the appeal which the committee of the Syrian Relief Fund now addresses to them for help proportioned to the vastness of this emergency. We earnestly call upon the mayors and provosts of all provincial cities and towns to initiate efforts to call forth the beneficence of their fellow-townsmen. Above all we trust that the ministers of religion of every denomination—the Anglican clergy, the Roman Catholic priesthood, the ministers of the Hebrew community, and of every persuasion of dissenters, will heartily co-operate in this great work of philanthropy by private and congregational collections, and thus afford to the jarring and mutually ex sects of the East, and to the world at large, the most convincing evidence of the humanising and harmonising influence of the religion of the Bible.

"The following statement indicates the extent and variety of the sufferings for the relief of which the committee address this appeal to British humanity.

"One hundred and fifty towns and villages have been pillaged and burnt, with the churches, patriarchates, monasteries, schools, the crops, silk factories, &c.; also the whole of the Christian houses in Damascus destroyed (a city in itself), including the European Consulates.

"Sixteen thousand Christians have been killed, including the men, women, and children, murdered in cold blood. Also, Mr. Graham and other missionaries, some of their corpses having been mutilated and thrown into the wells.

"Three thousand Christian women, married and unmarried, have been sold as slaves into Turkish harems for a few shillings each.

"Seventy thousand to eighty thousand persons, including twenty thousand widows and orphans, left homeless and starving.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Amount raised to September 17th, about £14,000, including about £1000 contributed through a local committee at Manchester, and £1000 raised by a similar committee at Liverpool.

Several local committees are being formed, and it is hoped that their number will daily increase. Addresses have been issued by eminent members of the Jewish community and the Society of Friends, entreating the prompt assistance of the bodies to which they belong. Ministers of every religious persuasion in the United Kingdom and on the continent are being appealed to for congregational collections. Many have been already made, and it is hoped that they will become universal. The Greek community in England have contributed most liberally.

Ladies' committees are being formed in London and the country for the collection of cast-off garments, remnants, and soiled or damaged goods, suitable for clothing; and the warehousemen and manufacturers of the kingdom are being appealed to for the same purpose. Of the London committee, Lady Stratford de Redcliffe is president; Lady Montefiore, vice-president; and the Countess of Shaftesbury and Miss Florence Nightingale are members.

Contributions have been received from Paris, Hamburg, Calais, Toulouse, and other continental cities, and zealous efforts are being made in the United States.

The Consul General at Beyrout, Chairman of the corresponding Committee there, has been authorized by telegrams, kindly transmitted by the Foreign Office, to draw upon the Treasurer for £10,000 and to employ, at the charges of the London Committee, the refugees at Beyrout in the cleansing of the town.

A lady, who has long resided in Syria, is about to revisit that country, and, under the auspices of the London Committee, and the more immediate arrangements of the Beyrout Committee, to aid in the distribution of relief, in food, clothing, &c., more especially to women, children, and invalids.

Donations of provisions, clothing, medicine, tents, &c., will be sent out free of expense, if addressed to the "British Syrian Relief Committee," at the Victoria Dock Warehouse, Steel Yard, Upper Thames-street, E.C.; or 4, York Buildings, Liverpool. Persons sending goods are requested to inform by letter, the Secretary, Mr. Cyrus Edmonds, 12, York Buildings, Adelphi.

The following bankers receive subscriptions to the fund:—Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co.; Glyn and Co.; Robarts, Curtis, and Co.; Smith, Payne and Co.; Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Robarts, Lubbock, and Co.; Dimsdale, Drewett, and Co.; Heywood, Kennard, and Co.; Ransom, Bouverie, and Co.; Child and Co.; Praed and Co.; Drummond and Co.; Coutts and Co.; Cocks and Co.; Call, Marten, and Co.; and the following Banking Companies:—The London and Westminster Bank, Lothbury, and all its branches; Union Bank London Joint Stock Bank; London and County Bank; the National Bank of Ireland, and all its branches; the Ottoman Bank; and the National Bank of Scotland, and all its branches.

SIR C. E. EARDLEY, BART. } Hon.
SIR JAMES FERGUSSON, BART. } Secretaries.
J. P. KENNARD, ESQ., 4, Lombard-street, Treasurer.
CYRUS R. EDMONDS, Secretary.
12, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.

## HARRISON'S ICE-MAKING MACHINE.

WE mentioned, a few days since, that the manufacture of ice had been commenced in Sydney at Messrs. Russell's factory in George-street, by means of machinery invented by Mr. James Harrison, of Geelong. The novelty of the process, as well as the importance of the article in a warm climate, call for a more detailed description of the ingenious apparatus.

The approach to the ice manufactory does not convey the slightest indication of the production of such a cool, clear, transparent substance. Passing along a gateway leading between high and dingy walls to the buildings which have been, until recently, used for a foundry and smiths' shops, over ground strewed with scraps of old iron, and through an atmosphere redolent of smoke, suggests—particularly on a hot, dusty day—ideas the very opposite of the freezing that is going on in the neighbourhood. It is true that the house erected for the ice manufacture contrasts favourably with the begrimed appearance of the adjoining building, but on entering it there is nothing in the aspect of the machinery or in the temperature at all indicative of refrigeration. The warmth of the atmosphere indeed requires the construction of doubly-cased wooden frames around a large portion of the apparatus, and consequently prevents the visitor from detecting at a glance, and without an explanation of the machinery, how the ice is manufactured.

Exclusive of the steam-engine, which works the machinery, the ice machine consist of four portions—the air pump, the refrigerating vessel, the condenser, and the freezing troughs. There is nothing peculiar in the construction of the air pump to call for remark, excepting in its being much larger than those used for scientific experiments. The refrigerating vessel, containing the ether which is evaporated, is three and a half feet in length and eighteen inches in diameter, and is intersected horizontally by a hundred and fifty pipes, through which there is a constant current of salt water. With every stroke of the air pump a portion of the vapour of the ether is abstracted, the effect of which is to deprive the spirit of the heat it contains, and thereby to impart sudden and intense coldness to the adjacent stream. The vapour, on being drawn from the refrigerating vessel, passes into the cylinder of the air pump, in alternately the top and bottom of which (the air pump being double acting) the vapour is compressed; on being released it is, by a corresponding movement of the air pump, conveyed to the condensing apparatus. This consists of a large vat, some six feet in diameter, around the inside of which the worm conveying the vapour is coiled, emptying into an iron vessel, this portion of the process resembling that of ordinary distillation. As refrigeration is produced by the evaporation of the ether, the opposite quality—heat—is engendered by the condensation of the vapour; to counteract this the vat is filled with cold water, which is continually renewed, and surrounds the worm, of which there are fourteen or fifteen coils before reaching the receiver. The force with which the vapour is passed into the condenser is sufficient to raise it when liquefied into the vessel from which it was abstracted. There is consequently no perceptible waste in the material, which is a rather important consideration, as the process requires the use of eighty lbs. of ether, the cost of which is ten shillings per lb. For the refrigerating operation sulphuric ether is used, which is manufactured from sulphuric acid and nitre. It is imported from England, none having, we believe, been manufactured in this colony.

These processes are repeated with every stroke of the piston, which rises and falls forty times a minute. A more rapid motion of the pump would produce a more intense degree of cold, but the consequence of this would be the freezing of the salt water in the tubes, which actually occurred a few days ago, causing the stoppage of the operation, the temperature having been brought down to 23 degrees, and the brine not being sufficiently strong to prevent it freezing at that point. The temperature kept up varies from 26 to 30 degrees, 32 degrees being the freezing point of fresh water. The two troughs in which the zinc moulds containing the water to be frozen are placed, are each about twelve feet in length by four in width, and are placed parallel with each other, being connected by a pipe; they slope gradually from the refrigerating vessel, so that the salt water on passing out of the tubes descends through the troughs and communicates its refrigerating property to the water in the moulds round which it flows. From the end of the second trough the brine is pumped back again, so as to be constantly passing through the refrigerating vessel. By this means the refrigerating process is continuous, and by degrees the entire contents of the troughs are reduced to such a low temperature as to freeze the water in all the moulds. The receptacle for the brine, which surrounds the refrigerating vessel, is fitted with compartments that are so arranged as to necessitate the water passing through the tubes several times before entering the trough; by this means a greater quantity of cold is obtained than if the brine went straight through, in addition to which a steady current is obtained. The size of the moulds is about eighteen inches square, and their width from two to three inches; they are a hundred and sixty in number, and are ranged in double rows along the troughs. The water in the moulds nearest the refrigerating vessel freezes, of course, the soonest; and it usually takes about 24 hours to freeze the water in those that are most remote. This period would be very considerably lessened if the demand for ice were sufficient to keep the machine constantly going, as the loss of time at present involved in cooling the brine would be done away with. At starting there are two and a-half tons of salt water, and a ton and a-half of fresh water to be reduced from a temperature of 65 degrees to one of 28 degrees. It need scarcely be stated that the salt water is used as a refrigerating medium, because it remains fluid below the freezing point of water. As each slab of ice, on being taken from the mould, weighs about fifteen pounds, the total quantity of ice made at one working of the machine, is a little over a ton weight. By working the machine day and night, about three tons could be made in two days.

The pipe leading from the refrigerating vessel to the air-pump is covered with flannel to prevent the premature condensation of the vapour. A small portion of the pipe is exposed, and here a very curious appearance is presented, the atmosphere condensing upon the pipe, and covering it with a coating of snow. This serves a useful purpose, as it indicates that the machine is in proper order. The appearance of the ice in the moulds also presents a curious illustration of the tendency of water while freezing to rise and expand—the ice rising above the sides of the mould, and leaving a vacuum of some two inches at the bottom of the mould.

The operation of ice-making presents, therefore, the continuous circulation of two fluids, constituting as it were the active and the passive agents in the process; the ether, abstracted in the form of vapour, and after being condensed returning back to the vessel,—and the brine flowing from the tubes through the troughs, whence, after communicating a refrigerating power to the freezing moulds, it is pumped back to the tubes. These processes have been aptly referred to as illustrating the double circulation of the blood.

A method of producing ice somewhat similar to that adopted in Mr. Harrison's invention was discovered by M. Praestaire, in 1845, and has been frequently introduced as an interesting experiment in lectures on chemistry. Some sulphurous acid is poured into a platinum crucible, maintained in a state of red heat over a spirit lamp, the fluid having the singular property of not evaporating when placed in that position. The effect of adding a few drops of water to the sulphurous acid is, that the diluted acid gets into contact with the hot metal and instantly flashes off into sulphurous acid vapour; and such is the rapidity and energy of the evaporation, that the water remains behind, and is found frozen into a lump of ice in the red hot crucible.

The fact of refrigeration being caused by the evaporation of ether, has long been known as a scientific fact. The peculiarity of Mr. Harrison's invention has been stated to consist in the arrangements for evaporating ether at a low temperature, and condensing it at a higher—the reverse of ordinary evaporating processes. The invention was first successfully tested in the year 1855, by a machine manufactured by Mr. Siebe, of Denmark-street, Soho, and which was brought out by the inventor to Geelong, where it is now working. Three machines after the same pattern have been manufactured by Messrs. Russell, which are now in use at Melbourne, Bendigo, and Adelaide. The one we are now describing is the first that has been in operation in Sydney. The total cost of the machine, including its putting up, has been nearly £3000.

The ice is made from the Botany water, and is, both in respect of purity and hardness, fully equal to that imported from North America. It is stated by the hotel keepers to have greater firmness and durability han the imported article, while the convenient shape in which it is produced is a great recommendation. In the ice box contiguous to the machine, and which consists of a double casing of wood, lined with sawdust, some slabs of ice have been kept for more than a week with scarcely any loss,—not amounting to two per cent.

The manufacture of ice has been taken up in a spirited manner by a company, who, in addition to keeping a stock on hand sufficient to supply the casual demand that may arise, have made arrangements for a regular delivery of the article to private purchasers within the city boundaries, offering to supply to subscribers of 21s. a month thirty pounds of ice weekly, in two deliveries of fifteen pounds each. The only additional expense necessary to those who desire to keep ice for the purpose of cooling wine or preserving meat, will be that of a refrigerator, consisting simply of a box with a double cover and a false bottom. Some of these, of American manufacture, are on sale in Sydney, at prices ranging from £2 upwards. Now that ice can be obtained in any quantity, its value will soon be understood and appreciated for a variety of purposes. It offers to be especially serviceable to butchers and poulterers, as their meat and poultry, by being put into ice rooms, will remain sweet much longer than they otherwise would. Ice is also found of great value in England by brewers and distillers, who now invariably cool their worts by that means. In the production of butter and cheese, and in the salting of provisions, ice would be found of very great use.

The manufacture has been inspected by his Excellency the Governor-General and by other scientific gentlemen, who have manifested great interest in the process. The machine will probably be at work every other day for the next three or four months, and Messrs. Russell have signified their willingness to allow those who may be curious to witness the manufacture an opportunity of doing so.

## MAITLAND CHRISTMAS RACES.

*(From Yesterday's Mercury.)*

THE Maitland Christmas races commenced on Wednesday on the Rutherford Course. The weather was unusually favourable and cool. The course was in excellent order, having undergone a considerable amount of preparation—hollows having been filled up and the posts freshly whitewashed. The attendance was numerous, notwithstanding the rival attractions of the sports at East Maitland. The day passed off without accident; but the sport was indifferent. Shortly after twelve o'clock the bell rang for the

First Race.—The Christmas Box of 25 sovereigns, with a sweep of 2 sovereigns each added, for all horses that have never won a prize exceeding £30, including sweepstakes; heats one and a half mile; weight for age. The second horse to receive £5 from the prize.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mr. John Swan's c. f. Koh-i-noor, 3 years (Welsh) | 1 | 1 |
| I. Gorrick, junior's ch. g. Prince, aged | 3 | 2 |
| J. Ramsay's skew Bally, aged | 0 | 3 |
| F. M. Doyle's c. h. Warrior, 3 years | 2 | dr |
| Matthew Chisler's b. g. Wait-a-While, 5 years | | |

Warrior was the favourite in this race, and odds against Koh-i-noor. A good start was effected, the five going away well together. Warrior, however, soon went ahead, and in passing the stand the first time led by several lengths; but Koh-i-noor was even then making play, and quickly closed up, and, holding the first place when the horses again became visible from the stand, he kept it to the close. Warrior came in about three lengths ahead, and Prince in the third place, which he had held the greater part of the time. In this heat Bally, Koh-i-noor, and Wait-a-While declared over.

In the second heat Warrior was drawn, Koh-i-noor took the lead at starting, kept it throughout, and won in a canter. Wait-a-While bolted, and was pulled up by his jockey. Prince came in second, closely raced by Bally.

Second Race.—The Trial Stakes of 15 sovereigns, with a sweep of 1 sovereign each added, for all horses that have never won an advertised prize; weight for age; heats, once round.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mr. F. M. Doyle's c.h. Warrior, 3 years (Francis) | 1 | 1 |
| T. Ramsay's c.h., Fox, 3 years | 2 | 2 |
| John Mayo's c.m. Nell Gwynne, 3 years | 3 | 3 |
| James Clift's b.g. Dred, aged | 0 | 0 |
| Matthew Chisler's g f. Firefly, 4 years | 0 | dr |
| John Swan's c.f. Koh-i-noor, aged | dr | |

In the first heat Firefly and Nell Gwynne declared over. Koh-i-noor was drawn. Firefly led at the start, but was quickly overhauled and passed. Warrior and Fox had some smart racing, and Dred made play for a time, but gave place to Nell Gwynne. On the horses coming into sight again from the stand, Warrior was leading, and Fox close behind. In this order they came in, Nell Gwynne third. Time, two minutes.

In the second heat Firefly was drawn. After two false starts the horses got off, Dred leading, and followed by Nell Gwynne and Warrior. Nell shortly afterwards took first place, but Warrior went up and passed her. As they continued, Fox improved his position, and at the close Warrior won hard held. Fox came in a good second, and Nell followed within a couple of lengths, Dred last

Third Race.—The Tradesman's Purse of 15 sovereigns, with a sweep of 2 sovereigns each added, for all horses; the winner to be sold by auction immediately after the race, any surplus over £30 to go to the funds; one event, twice round, carrying weight for age.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Mr. A. Doyle's b.g. Grasshopper, aged | | 1 |
| " lt. bay h. Wallaby, aged | | 2 |
| " b g. Soldier Boy | | dr. |

This was a very poor affair. Soldier Boy was drawn, and Mr. Doyle declared to win on Grasshopper. Both riders were declared overweight. The horses started at a canter, and continued at little better than a canter throughout, keeping very good company, though Grasshopper led the way. Wallaby nearly overtook him once or twice, and on nearing the winning post showed some probability of winning, but failed to do so.

A hack sweepstakes was made up privately; eight horses were entered at £1 each, to run once round the course. Mr. James Clift's bay horse, Ashby, won the sweep after a fair contest. This race was run between the second and third of the advertised races, the last of which concluded the programme of the day.

VOLUNTEER RIFLES.—After a week's holiday, drill will be recommenced on Monday morning, the 31st, instead of Wednesday, as formerly proposed, as it is desirable that as much progress as possible be made before the commanding officer's parade, which will take place on Saturday, the 5th proximo.

BAND FOR VOLUNTEERS.—A numerously attended meeting was held last evening at the Volunteer's Office, convened by Mr. D. Callen, for the purpose of organising a band in connection with the Volunteer Artillery and Rifles. The various applicants underwent a musical examination, and a suitable selection was made. It is proposed to maintain a permanent staff of sixteen professional players, comprising all the parts necessary for a complete military band, the full strength to be filled up by amateurs. A list of fourteen professional players was enrolled, and from this we may look forward to have our Volunteer Band very soon in full practice. It is particularly desired that more competent amateur players should come forward in order that the parts may be filled up. We trust that the public of Sydney will assist in a prompt and liberal spirit in contributing to the necessary funds. It is almost a reproach to the citizens that a town band does not exist, and that Sydney is indebted for a promenade band on the courtesy of officers in barracks. It is proposed that the Volunteer Band should perform once or twice a week in the domain for the benefit of the public.

AUCTIONEERS.—A special meeting for the granting of auctioneers' licenses for 1861, will be held at the Central Police Office to-day (Friday), at 12. Applicants must appear personally.

COOKE'S SHEET ALMANAC.—We have received a copy of Cooke's Commercial Almanac for 1861, the first, we believe, that has yet been issued. It occupies a sheet of double demy, which is filled with information of a useful character, containing the code of signals, the law calendar, a gardener's calendar, a list of the eclipses, &c., &c. The heading is embellished with a view of "Taranaki, the Seat of the New Zealand War." Altogether, the almanac is fairly got up, and will, no doubt, meet with a ready sale.

DEATH BY DROWNING.—Writing from Muswellbrook, to the Maitland Mercury, on Christmas Day, the correspondent of that journal says:—A man named William Hanley met his death by drowning at the crossing-place at Aberdeen, on the evening of the 22nd. The unfortunate man had a narrow escape on his way to this town, from the swollen state of the Hunter; and on account of his inebriated state, several persons earnestly entreated him not to return home until the river had subsided; but he was deaf to their entreaties, and madly attempted the passage, which has cost him his life. His body was found half-a-mile below the place where the sad accident occurred. The rising of the river was so sudden that several were unaware of it until they reached the banks, and some nearly paid dear for their temerity in venturing the fords. Amongst others, we hear it is rumoured that the Rev. Mr. Bird, of Cassilis, had a narrow escape while crossing the river.

Messrs. Charles Moore and Co. request us to direct the attention of warehousemen, drapers, storekeepers, and the trade, to their clearing sale of drapery, slops, &c., this day, at 11 o'clock, at their rooms, Pitt-street.—ADV.

## ABSTRACT OF SALES BY AUCTION THIS DAY.

MESSRS. BURT AND CO.—At their Bazaar, at 11 o'clock, Horses, Gigs, Springcarts, Drays, Harness, &c.

MESSRS. CHAS. MOORE AND CO.—At their Rooms, at 11 o'clock, Drapery Slops, &c.

MESSRS. PURKIS AND LAMBERT.—At their Mart, at 11 o'clock, Furniture, Cooking Utensils, Crockery, &c.

MR. J. G. COHEN.—On the Premises, Margaret-street, at 11 o'clock, Office Furniture, Plateware, Stove and Fire Irons, Watchmakers' Materials, Cigars, and Sundries.

MESSRS. W. DEAN AND CO.—At their Warehouse, at 11 o'clock, Damaged Galvanised Iron, American Tubs and Buckets, Shovels, Wax Vestas.

MESSRS. DURHAM AND IRWIN.—At their Stores, at 11 o'clock, Wool, Sheepskins, Tallow, Hides, Bacon, Horns, Hams, Bones, &c.; at half-past 11 o'clock, Bacon.

MESSRS. CHATTO AND HUGHES.—At their Rooms, at 11 o'clock, Stationery, Printing Papers, &c.

MR. J. M. HUGHES.—On the Premises, King-street, at 11 o'clock, Unredeemed Pledges.

MR. THOMAS DAWSON.—At the Railway Terminus, at 12 o'clock, Calves, Pigs, Butter, Poultry, Eggs, Hay, Posts and Rails, &c.

MR. S. WOOLLER.—At his Repository, at 11 o'clock, Horses, Carts, Dogcarts, Springcarts, Saddles, &c.

MR. W. PRITCHARD.—At his New Yards, Market Wharf, at half-past 2 o'clock, Lambs and Calves, Flour, Bran, Bacon, Hay, &c.

MESSRS. ALEXANDER MOORE AND CO.—At the Labour Bazaar, at 11 o'clock, Boots, Watches, Jewellery, Clothing, and Sundries.

THE SHERIFF.—At the London Tavern, George-street, at noon, Right, Title, and Interest in Land in the County of St. Vincent.

MR. FARQUHARSON'S ENTERTAINMENT.—Mr. Farquharson repeated, yesterday evening, his Christmas entertainment. The programme was substantially the same as that of Wednesday evening, consisting of selections from the operas, and of popular songs, chiefly of a humorous character, in all of which Mr. Farquharson was very successful, and drew loud plaudits from the audience. The entertainment will be given, for the third and last time, this evening, when there will be a change in the programme.

MR. ANDREW TORNING.—We are sorry to perceive from the *California* Spirit of the Times, and Fireman's Journal, of the 28th September, 1860, that our old fellow-colonist, Mr. Andrew Torning, who left Sydney for California some eighteen months back, has met with a most severe injury whilst aiding in extinguishing a calamitous fire at the Music Hall of that city. It seems that whilst in the act, or after having just done so, of affixing fifty more feet of hose on to the engine, a large chimney, belonging to the first floor, fell inwards bringing down the whole of the first and second floor, with it, and burying the unfortunate gentleman beneath the ruins. He retained his senses long enough to attract, by his cries, some of his fellow-firemen (Broderick's No. 1 engine) to the spot, and after desiring them to play on him for a little time (or otherwise he would have been buried alive), he was rescued and carried home. His injuries are, collar-bone and some ribs broken, left arm fractured, and eye sight injured, but not dangerously. From the Daily Ulta California, of the 30th September, we quote—"Mr. Andrew Torning, the artist, who was so bady injured at the late disastrous fire in Bush-street, is in a fair way of recovery, though his collar-bone is broken, and some of his ribs fractured; his eyes are somewhat affected but not dangerously. He is a member of the Broderick No. 1 Company, and one of its most valuable members. We trust he will soon be able to attend again to his duties."

ENTERTAINMENT OF MESSRS. STEPHENS AND HOUDIN.—At the present festive season in Sydney, numerous entertainments, of an unusually excellent description, have been thoughtfully provided for the innocent gratification and rational amusement of the public,—doubtless fully prepared for any amount of relaxation after the unceasing political turmoil with which everybody has been heated and wearied for some weeks past. This is precisely as it should be; for the nature and character of public amusements (and especially those resorted to on general holiday times) is a matter of much more serious importance than is often supposed, and one which exercises a wide and lasting influence upon the minds of the people, either for evil or for good. Amongst such means of amusement for quiet Christmas-keeping folks, justly entitled to rank within the last-named category, is an entertainment at once amusing, instructive, and, in every way, unobjectionable,—got up by the talented comedian, lecturer, and comic vocalist, Mr. W. H. Stephens, and a Mr. Harry Houdin,—a gentleman whose name is, as yet, far less familiar to the Sydney public, but one of whom it is not too much to say that his artistic ability in delineation of character, and wonderfully versatile powers are such as to entitle him to be prominently brought under notice, and to be more generally known and appreciated. The entertainment in question commenced last night with a variety of performances of sleight of hand by Mr. Houdin, in which without any visible apparatus a variety of clever feats were exhibited, and elicited much applause. Amongst these were the celebrated bottle trick (which Houdin performs with his coat off and his shirt sleeves tucked up), the trick of the inexhaustible hat, a variety of card tricks, and puzzling optical delusions with handkerchiefs, &c. To this exhibition of drawing-room magic succeeded a pleasing ballad sung by Miss M. P. Raymond, a fair young *debutante* who possesses a very fine voice, and bids fair to become a favourite. The entire absence of affectation, and the undeniably good taste and simplicity with which this lady sings, render her interpretation of ballad music extremely effective. Mr. Stephens' portion of the programme was then entered upon and done ample justice to by that gentleman. It consisted of an entertainment of a character resembling that first devised by the lamented Albert Smith, and was principally based upon what had been seen by the monologuist in his Flying Trip across the Pacific to California, the results of his experience and observation in that country, and afterwards at Panama and in the States of America. After glancing at a few matters witnessed by him at Tahiti, and enlivening the audience by a queer method adopted in that Protectorate for the punishment of murder, Mr. Stephens passed on to speak of San Francisco, and of the more prominent characteristics of that great commercial city. Its present social state was graphically described, the vast progress there made in all respects since 1849, and the drawbacks still to be taken into consideration, and not to be contemplated without regret. The account of an earthquake he had witnessed in that great city was first given, and then still further illustrated by a lively comic song, written by some rather fast American author upon that rather alarming occasion. The manner in which public gambling houses at San Francisco have of late years been unreservedly swept away by the American police was then shown, and much really valuable information imparted (in a light and agreeable form) as to many matters and things tending to clear away the mists of ignorance and national prejudice. These, of course, cannot here in detail be entered upon. The latter part of the lecture, or monologue, was made interesting and amusing by racy anecdotes and songs—amongst the latter of which were Etherization, The Young Lady with nothing to Wear, the terribly moving Lament of Joe Bowers, a disappointed digger, whose lady love married a butcher, and the philosophical and comical lyric of Trouble Your Heads with your own Affairs. After this Mr. Stephens sang (in character) two capital sons which were received with loud shouts of laughter, the acting and the singing being both in his happiest style. Mr. Houdin's Polynational Entertainment (which reminded us very agreeably of the performances of Miss Emma Stanley) terminated the evening to the

## A DAY WITH THE SHORTHORNS.

*(From the Economist, October 20th.)*

PARTLY with an eye to business in the purchase of some shorthorn heifers, and partly for the enjoyment of a rural holiday, we started on Tuesday morning by the first train from Paddington for Mr. Stratton's, at Broad Hinton, in Wiltshire, to go with him through his magnificent herd of shorthorns. Of course it rained, as it always has rained during the past summer, and rained heavily and continuously till mid-day. Nothing can look more drenched than the country looks throughout the whole distance, and whatever farm-work can be retarded by wet weather still remains undone. The wheat, however, is all carried, save a field or two we noticed in Wiltshire, and a few oats yet remain abroad, some of them, indeed, not yet cut. Beans are all in the fields; some also not cut. The bean crops appear, and are said to be, remarkably heavy, but the land on which they have grown is everywhere foul and full of grass, effective weeding having been during the last spring wholly impossible. As wheat universally follows beans, the wheat-sowing season of the present autumn must be a late one. This, where the land is in good condition, is not much regarded; but, taking all sorts of farms and all kinds of farming into consideration, a late wheat-sowing season seldom leads to so large a return or so wide a breadth as an earlier autumn season. In the pasture lands of Berkshire and Wiltshire, the cattle, in spite of the wet, are in good condition; and in Wiltshire it is impossible to avoid being struck with the improved character of the cows and heifers on most of the dairy farms. The labours of Mr. Stratton and his fellow-breeders of that and adjoining counties are producing the best results in improving the cattle of Wilts, Berks, and Gloucester. This is mainly by the agency of shorthorn bulls of pure blood, for which most of the extensive dairy farmers give £50 and £60 when yearlings. The shorthorn cow, when not made over-fat as a calf, is found to be a first-rate milker, far superior indeed, quantity and quality being considered, than any other breed of cattle. True it is that prize shorthorn heifers seldom prove good milkers, and the reason is, that the high feeding necessary to fit them for prize competition must be commenced from birth, and so develops the fat-producing organisation, that usually heifers so treated will not in after life produce large quantities of milk. We say usually, for it is by no means uncommon to find the same cow producing much milk, and at the same time keeping herself in high condition. Mr. Stratton has several illustrious examples of this in his herd. Nor does it follow that a prize heifer, though herself not a good milker, may not be the mother of good dairy cows, provided her heifer calves are so reared as to adapt them for dairy purposes. It rests, in fact, with the breeder of shorthorns whether he will rear feeding or dairy stock, the breed itself being equal to either fortune, and is equally fitted for producing meat at an early age, or cheese and butter, according as the one or the other purpose is required of it. At the same time milking power is undoubtedly inherited, and the shorthorn breeder who desires to rear dairy cattle should pay attention to the characteristics, as dairy cows, of the dam and grand-dam of the heifers he rears.

At Broad Hinton we found the herd in high health and condition, and amongst them the heifers and young stock which had just returned from the Worcester Agricultural Show, where Mr. Stratton had carried off, we believe, all the prizes for shorthorns. We have so recently stated the most remarkable facts relating to the formation and management of this herd brought down to a very recent period, which we derived from a full and accurate account published in the Mark Lane Express, under the head of "The Herds of Great Britain," that we shall not now repeat them. The marked characteristics of Mr. Stratton's herd are strength of constitution, and heavy flesh in combination with blood and quality. He holds that a pedantic devotion to pedigree, without at the same time paying at least equal attention to form, size and usefulness to be a serious error, and it is one to which many shorthorn breeders of past and present times have fallen into. He considers that he has mainly exploded that exclusive devotion to pedigree once prevalent, that *without* "ruining the blood," he has "much improved the flesh," and has led his rivals and competitors to do so likewise. Not that Mr. Stratton overlooks blood, for Booth and Bates blood are largely represented in his herd; but unless any animal be a good one, he does not care to breed from it, however well descended it may be.

It is worthy of note that nearly all our great shorthorn breeders have been largely indebted to some cow of especial worth as the foundation of their herds and their most eminent success. Mr. Bates and his descendants from "Duchess," will at once occur to the reader's mind as a prominent instance of the kind. Well, Mr. Stratton has his favourite blood constantly referred to as "the old cow." If there is a heifer not to be parted with, she is found to inherit a large amount of the "old cow's" blood. The pet portion of the entire herd, the past and future prize winners, the cows and calves, which the visitor at once sees must have attained past and are destined for future fame, all claim kindred—and the closer the kin the more valued—with the "old cow." To retain and perpetuate the largest quantity of the old cow's blood in the individual animals, in-and-in breeding has been again and again, but with much discretion and with unflinching regard to form and substance, resorted to. And it has beyond a doubt been most successful. If you are struck with some cow of grander proportions and finer symmetry than her field-fellows, you learn that the old cow's blood formed the stock on which fashionable grafts have produced the animal you admire. There is "Matchless" the something—the fourth we believe—which, for form, colour, carriage, and all that distinguishes the fine shorthorn from ordinary cattle, attracts and rivets immediate attention the moment you enter her field: she has beaten all or nearly all the competitors with which she has contended, and is a close relation by descent of the old cow. Now this old cow was "Moss Rose," the daughter of a heifer, bought by Mr. Stratton in a country market, without name or pedigree. She was doubtless thoroughbred, but the trace of her lineage had been lost. Put to a bull of known and good blood, Phœnix, she produced Moss Rose, and Moss Rose may be said to have formed the Broad Hinton herd—aided, be it noted, by more than twenty years of unwearied care, skill, and selection of good as well as well-bred animals. The first Matchless was by Red Duke out of Moss Rose. The bull now doing good service in the herd, is Windsor second, a son of Mr. Booth's Windsor. He is white, and many of his calves take after him in colour, but with dark coloured cows his calves are the darkest of roans, while the form and substance of all are extremely good. A very nice roan bull, the Knight of Hanlon, of Booth blood, bought by Mr. Stratton in Ireland, is also in use, and great things are expected from him.

On visiting the Broad Hinton Farm one is struck with the extent of the herd. We know nowhere where the purchaser of short-horn heifers can go with so good a prospect of suiting himself. Unlike many breeders, Mr. Stratton does not stand out for extravagant prices, nor has he so limited the fertility of his herd by high feeding that he cannot venture to part with his females. His breeding business, like the rest of his farming ventures, is on a large scale, and with one of the most prolific herds in England, he acts on the principle of modern trade, of moderate profits and quick returns. That such a system has answered, all about him betokens. He has a Fowler's steam plough, and he has this year, with the help of his mowing machines, got up the whole of his hay in capital order. The rapid work of the machines, a Woods and a Burgess and Key, each cutting ten acres a day, has enabled him, with the aid of large bands of hired haymakers, so to use the fine fortnight of August that his extensive herd is well provided with hay for the ensuing winter. Another satisfactory evidence of success is that Mr. Stratton has just purchased a capital grass farm, of 500 acres, a few miles distant from Broad Hinton. One peculiarity in Mr. Stratton's management is that he sets but little store by roots, either swedes or mangold, and he finds that cattle without roots do quite as well or better than those to which roots are given. This is contrary to our own experience, though there is, no doubt, too many roots commonly used. The herdsmen are always inclined to overdo the stock with roots, and it is one of the great uses of the root-pulper that by its use the quantities of roots are somewhat restricted.

## THE NEAPOLITAN BOURBONS.

*(From Bell's Weekly Messenger, October 13th.)*

WE need scarcely remark that we heartily concur in the wish of the Neapolitan people, as expressed by Lord Llanover, that the reign of the Bourbon dynasty may be speedily and for ever brought to a close; and we are greatly mistaken, if the gallant and glorious achievement of Garibaldi and his brave comrades on the Volturno does not compass that much desired event. Francis II. will, in all probability, be the last of his house, who will reign over the Two Sicilies, for fate seems to have doomed the Bourbon race to extinction; and we search in vain into the character of its several members, who have been successively placed in power, for one redeeming ray to relieve the uniform darkness, which, more or less, has enshrouded them all. From Ferdinand I., who behaved treacherously to the Sicilians throughout the whole of his reign, to Francis II., whose treachery extends alike to Neapolitans and Sicilians, there has been little more than the cunning and craft of the most pitiless of tyrants, and the treachery and shamelessness of the most cruel of the oppressors. Let us, however, see how the names of these worthies are recorded in the page of history, when truthfully written.

The war of the Spanish Succession caused a change in the map of Europe, and after many fluctuations Sicily and Naples were formed into one kingdom, under Charles, son of Philip V., the successful Bourbon candidate for the Crown of Spain. Thus, in 1735, these States, after a separation of four centuries and a half, were united into a single monarchy, the new King swearing before the national representatives at Palermo to observe the ancient institutions of the island. Charles honestly preserved his pledge, and, taking up his residence beyond the Straits, where the royal authority was free and unshackled by a Parliament, did not interfere with the affairs of Sicily, which was governed by a viceroy, and in every respect was independent of Naples. Ferdinand the First, however, his successor, thwarted by, and jealous of, the Sicilian institutions, systematically intrenched upon them, until he awakened the indignation of the people; and it was only by the intervention of England, in 1812, that Sicily was saved from a revolution. The ancient constitution of the island was then remodelled to suit the requirements of modern times, the King swearing to observe its provisions, and Great Britain guaranteeing the maintenance of them. The revised charter is generally known as the English Constitution, which has given rise to the impression that the Sicilian Parliament owed its origin to the present century; whereas, it was invested with the dignity of 700 years' existence.

Restored, however, to the throne of Naples by the downfall of Napoleon, Ferdinand I. discharged his debt of gratitude to the people, to whom he owed his safety and his Crown, by revoking the Constitution he had so lately granted, and which England had formally pledged herself to maintain. It is humiliating to trace, in the subsequent history of Sicily, the result of that broken promise; whilst the part which England played in the whole affair was anything but creditable to her political *status* in Europe. Ferdinand, also, violated his oath in 1821, after swearing, in the preceding year, to uphold the Constitution which the people had wrung from him; and the menacing letter which he wrote, from the Congress, at Laybach, to his subjects, is imperishably embalmed in the history of that period; while the mockery of the promise which he made, to give the Neapolitans a firm and liberal Government, is a standing sarcasm against the assumed honesty of kings. The kingdom of Naples was then but a mere appanage of the Austrian empire, and Ferdinand the convenient tool for the suppression of liberal opinions.

FERDINAND II., who succeeded his father in 1830, commenced his reign like a saint of the first order, but ended it like a woeful and wicked sinner. On ascending the throne he promised to cure the wounds which his predecessor had inflicted upon the country; but at the close of his gloomy and perfidious career, the dungeons were crammed to excess with the *elite* of his people, for no other cause than that of demanding to speak and act like free subjects and honest citizens. On the *cholera-emeute*, as it is called, at Syracuse, in 1837, the worthy Ferdinand caused some sixty of his subjects to be shot down, and made that bloodly deed a pretext for depriving the Sicilians of a separate administration, and of amalgamating the island, as regards its administration, with his Neapolitan dominions. In the years 1847-48, when the revolutionary feeling was in the ascendant amongst the the leading Continental States, the pious-impious Ferdinand played his usual game of duplicity. He was ever alternating between a priest on the one hand, and a petticoat on the other—between the Jesuit Cocle, his subtle and dark-minded confessor, and his mother, who diligently besought him to incline towards something like liberal ways. The policy of the priest, however, as might naturally be expected, prevailed; and the subjects of his Neapolitan Majesty had the full and unreserved benefit of that paternal influence. The 15th of May, 1848, will never be erased from the memory of the Neapolitans, for upwards of 1000 persons then perished in the conflict that was treacherously promoted between the people and the troops; the city, also, was given up to pillage and slaughter, as in the good old times of Cardinal Ruffo, and Caroline, queen of Ferdinand I. Some idea may be formed of the severity which was as indiscriminate (as it was cruel, displayed by the authorities on that occasion, when we state that 30,000 persons were imprisoned in Naples alone upon political grounds, and that Naples was given up to the tender mercies of the lazzaroni, the vilest vagabonds that can be found in any community of Europe.

The crowning point, however, of this miscreant of Majesty will be found in the revenge which he indulged in towards his political opponents. The fate of Poerio and his noble companions is familiar to the English public—the letters of Mr. Gladstone in 1851, and the recent communication of Lord Llanover to a morning contemporary, having fully elucidated that matter. Who has not shuddered, on reading these letters, at the description of those dank and fetid dungeons, where, linked in revolting companionship with a felon or a murderer, the most moderate and upright of the Italian patriots were condemned to drag out an existence of prolonged bodily torture and mental decay? And what imagination can calmly contemplate the fact that the sympathy bestowed on the captives of San Stefano, Nisita, and Procida, may equally be claimed by 20,000 of their countrymen, immured for political offences alone in various parts of the Two Sicilies?

The son and successor of that miserable monarch has travelled in the same path as though it had been specially chalked out for him and of which neither he nor his ill-advisers could discern the danger. Had Francis II. made the slightest effort to release himself from the bondage which circumstances had thrown around him, and had he been unsuccessful in that effort, he would have awakened the sympathy, at least, not only of his own people, but also of the civilised world; but he chose to act otherwise, and cannot even lay claim to the compassion, which fallen greatness ordinarily commands, and which the world is never slow to extend. The crown, however, will fall from the head of this misguided mimic of his miserable father without the slightest regret, except it be expressed by those, who have a kindred spirit, and are influenced by similar sentiments to his own.

The exit, however, of Francis II. from political life is not yet completed. He is still at the head of an army, which, considering it is mainly composed of mercenaries, fights with considerable bravery, and shows anything but a craven spirit. Francis himself, too, according to common account at least, shows both daring and courage, and mingles in the fray as though he were conscious that his all depended upon the results. This courageous action, however, has come too late to serve any useful purpose. It is analogous to the last flicker of an expiring light, which becomes brightest when it is on the instant of going out entirely. A few days will determine the fate of the falling Monarch, and with him will go the Bourbon dynasty, which has for the last century and a half so systematically, so ruthlessly, and so ingloriously, ruled over the Two Sicilies.

## MR. DOVER'S SYSTEM OF TOWN DRAINAGE AND UTILISATION OF SEWAGE.

*(From the City Press.)*

THE sewage question has elicited many papers on the general subjects of cholera, water supply, agriculture, manures, the consumption of food in towns, and other subjects cognate with the one before us. Into these matters we will not now enter, simply because it is but a short time since we reviewed many in detail, with the view of showing that the most weighty public interests and the most momentous questions of the future welfare of the country are inevitably mixed up with the great subject of town drainage, and the destination of town sewage.

Mr. Dover's plans are in some respects unique for ingenuity, yet not essentially original in their general purport. Instead of dealing with the London sewage *en masse*, he would take it in detail, as already proposed by more than one of the many drainage projectors which the gigantic job of the Board of Works has invited on the scene. Instead of vast culverts and a roaring stream, there would be a multiplicity of reservoirs, and each reservoir would be connected with an ascending filter, and the separation of the deposit from the clear liquid would be carried on simultaneously. Imagine a vast concreted pit, with sloping bottom, at the lowest point of which is an outlet to another tank, placed at a still lower level. Then at one corner of the first-named tank, some distance above the outlet, let there be fixed a pipe, which is to descend to the bottom of another tank. The reservoir, or tank No. 1, receives the sewage in its normal state, which is summarily deodorised by the admixture of the chemical agents. When it becomes full, the fluid lifts a float, which causes the tap to turn at the side outlet, and the lightest portions of the sewage subside into tank No. 2. There is thus a flow of what we may term water from the side of the vessel, and at the same time a deposit of the heavier portions goes on below this outlet. In the tank No. 2 the fluid does not flow in at the surface, but at the bottom, and thus is compelled to rise through a strainer, and when it reaches the surface is let off by a tap as clear water. Meanwhile the mud has been accumulating at the bottom of tank No. 1, and in due time is allowed to pass into an under filter, where it parts with all the water by means of a strainer. So far the operation is mechanical only, but chemical operations take place coincidently with it. In the reservoir, the whole mass is deodorized, and the precipitation of solid matters hastened by the use of re-agents. In the second tank the liquid which flows away by the escape-pipe is almost tasteless, without odour or colour, and might be passed off as fair river water. The sediment at the bottom of this tank is of course small in quantity, but as it accumulates it is removed, to be added to the general mass derived from tank No. 3. The under filter is, of course, the grand depository of the sewage residuum, or British guano; and to facilitate the frequent removal of the muddy collections, No. 3 tank is constructed in the form of a railway truck, and is already mounted on wheels—an ingenious notion, which the reader can follow out for himself by picturing a train of such on their way to be tilted over on Farmer Giles's wheat field.

As to the materials used for deodorization, they are muriate of iron, combined with common salt and protosulphate of iron—powerful deodorizers, and the sulphate of peroxide of iron might be adopted as an alternative, especially if found to be as effectual and cheaper. For the filters Mr. Dover prefers to use charcoal or gypsum. Of course, the plan offers facilities for the manufacture of dry cakes of British guano by the application of pressure: but on this point we need not dwell—a fertilising slush has a market value, and commercial considerations will chiefly determine as to these and other matters of detail. The grand question is, can the system be applied to London, with a probability of success, for the purposes of sanitation and the utilisation of the product?

It was with a view to get an answer, if possible, to this question, that we paid a visit to Mr. Dover a few days since. We then and there saw the system in operation on a small scale, by means of a model set of implements. We saw the black sewage go in at the top and come out at the bottom in a stream remarkable for its clearness. It was like the machine that grinds old people young at Old Ford, and compelled us to ponder over the Scripture text, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin?" At Mr. Dover's kind invitation, we drank his health in a draught of the water, deriving some comfort from his assurance that its use would be positively beneficial to health, and, of course, mentally ignoring the fact of where it had come from. "It contains a useful tonic property," said Mr. Dover, and he says the same thing in his pamphlet. On that point we beg respectfully to dissent. We tasted the water, to gain knowledge for the good of mankind, and have no wish for mankind to partake of the tonic. A little iron in solution may be good for those who need it. Leibig says there is enough iron in the blood of forty men wherewith to make a ploughshare. But will Mr. Dover tell us what are the proportions of poisonous ingredients that must result from the employment of cheap mineral acids? We can tell him that with the iron certain other tonics pass over that mankind would be best without, and hope he will say no more about its tonic properties, until he can prove that the brilliant liquid is not capable of proving itself slow poison.—There is one comfort—we shall not want the water, but we do want the sewage. It will not do, then, as a commercial undertaking, to use charcoal at £2 per ton, and sell it at £2 12s. 6d. as manure. There would be a serious loss on the undertaking, and a little light has come over the world about charcoal which will probably put it out of use altogether as a manurial agent. It does not simply absorb and hold organic matters, but oxidizes them rapidly, so that in fact charcoal consumes organic matters thrown into its porous substance, and is thus a wasting instead of a preserving agent. That matter also is unimportant, because burnt clay may be had in London for a trifle over the price of carriage, and it is the best absorbent yet discovered; and, when saturated with sewage, is not only good for sandy soils, but even for the very clays from which it was taken originally. Mr. Dover estimates the cost of apparatus for seventy-two outlets at £5000 each; and these, he believes, would produce about 1000 tons of residuum per day, equal to £365,000 per year. If he can keep in the ammonia, which we still believe to be a difficulty, the resultant deposit would be as good as Peruvian guano, and if the ammonia be lost, it is still of high value for its phosphates. If ever a scheme of the kind merited the immediate and earnest attention of those interested in the sewage question, this of Mr. Dover's does, and we hope Mr. Dover's light may not be suffered to burn under a bushel.

THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT IN BELGIUM.—M. Aug. Orts, President, and M. Louis Detre, Secretary of the National Defence Committee of Belgium, have presented their report to M. Rogier, Minister of the Interior. The document is said to have excited great interest in the country. After setting out that the committee had desired so to support and foster the magnificent spirit of patriotism which had been manifested as to guard against its becoming a difficulty to the government, they proceed:—"In our time we have seen the horrors of war suddenly let loose upon a country without the world being much moved by the fact: and the development of railways encourages such rapid action that weak nations ought to be at all times ready to face the danger. In this respect Belgium is very far from having the power of employing at once all her resources. The civic guard has been organised in only forty-five communes out of 2524. It comprises only 31,000 out of 500,000 men which should constitute it; further, the active element is not separated from the sedentary element. In a word, the civic guard is not moveable without such a change as always takes time to establish. Thanks to the popular movement which has been developed within the last four months, this transformation, which, under ordinary circumstances, could not be obtained without difficulty, has become comparatively easy; and it will be even possible to extend and to put into activity those elements of resistance which are possessed by the 2479 communes that are not included in the organisation of the citizen militia. It is then of advantage to maintain the awakened spirit of the people, in order that the action of the government, when declared, shall find a good foundation to work upon, and that public opinion shall be disposed to receive its propositions and to second its designs. On the other hand, it was to be feared that the agitation, left to its own inspirations, would perform acts which might become later a subject of embarrassment and uneasiness to the country. So far, events have justified our reasoning. Certain restless spirits, desirous of creating a force independently of the action of the State, contemplated at Liege nothing less than the constitution of an armed association whose deliberations should be secret. We have counteracted that evil in seeking to direct public opinion. We have entered into correspondence with men of action. We have maintained intact the initiative of power. We have only counselled two things—first, the extension of special companies of the civic guard, and the formation in each battalion of a company of carabineers; in the second place, the creation in all communes where the civic guard is not actively organised of societies of carabineers, from which they could afterwards create active companies." The remainder of the report is for the most part occupied with discussions of the comparative merits of various rifles as an arm for the volunteer force, a subject on which the greatest uncertainty appears to exist.—Daily News, October 24.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGEWATER CANAL.—No sooner was the ground surveyed, and Brindley's views explained to the Duke, then the latter at once resolved that no sacrifice on his part should be wanting to ensure success to the enterprise. Disregarding all personal comfort, renouncing all the supposed requirements of his rank, the spirited young nobleman determined to give up the whole of his revenue during the progress of the work, and at once reduced his expenditure to four hundred per annum. Brindley, on his part, armed himself with strong determination to see no impossibilities, and to allow no natural impediments that could not be forced to yield to his science and skill. Here, then, were two men fit for work, who, under any circumstances would have done honour to their country, and have left some memorial of their desire to benefit their fellow-men. Let it be remembered that, in renouncing all the luxuries and pleasures to which his wealth and possessions might have tempted him, Francis, Duke of Bridgewater, did not selfishly look to his own future aggrandisement alone. The canal, like Rome, could not be made in a day: the Duke might never live to reap the reward of his self-denial; he was clearly, therefore, making a sacrifice for the benefit of posterity, however much he may have seen that great advantage would accrue to himself personally were life permitted to him long enough. Nor can we fail to admire the daring of Brindley: he had nothing to aid him but his own wonderful memory and forethought. Scarcely able to read and write, he was almost as ignorant of the use of figures, and was remarkable all his life for commencing and completing the most complicated works without the aid of any drawn plans or written directions. Supported, however, by the confidence of his employer, he began the work in good earnest, determined on success.—The Art of Doing Our Best.

APPROPRIATENESS IN DRESS.—Well knowing the worldly value of a good coat, I would yet never recommend a man of limited means to aspire to a fashionable appearance. In the first place, he becomes a walking falsehood; in the second, he cannot without running into debt, which is another term for dishonesty, maintain the style he has adopted. As he cannot afford to change his suits as rapidly as fashion alters, he must avoid following it in varying details. He will rush into wide sleeves one month, in the hope of being fashionable, and before his coat is worn out, the next month will bring in a narrow sleeve. We cannot unfortunately, like Samuel Pepys, take a long cloak now-a-days to the tailor's to be cut into a short one, "long cloaks being now quite out," as he tells us. Even when there is no poverty in the case, our position must not be forgotten. The tradesman will win neither customers nor friends by adorning himself in the mode of the club lounger, and the clerk or commercial traveller who dresses fashionably lays himself open to inquiry as to his antecedents, which he may not care to have investigated. In general it may be said that there is vulgarity in dressing like those of a class above us, since it must be taken as a proof of pretension. I remember going to church in a remote little village on the borders of Wales, and being much surprised to see enter, among the clod-hoppers and simple folks of the place, a couple of young men dressed in the height of fashion, and wearing yellow kid gloves and patent leather boots. On enquiry, I found them to be the sons of a rich manufacturer who had been once a working man, and was residing in the neighbourhood. I was not surprised, for vulgar pretension was here carried out to the worst extreme. Better bred men would have known that, whatever their London costume, a difference must be made in the country. The rule may be laid down, that wherever we are we should assimilate, as far as convenient, to the customs and costumes of the place. While I had no wish to see the sons of the *parvenu* appear in smock-frocks and high-lows, I was reasonable in thinking that a rougher style of dress would have been better; and this may be said for the country generally. As it is bad taste to flaunt the airs of the town among provincials, who know nothing of them, it is worse taste to display the dress of a city in the quiet haunts of the rustics. The law which we have enunciated, that all attempts at distinction by means of dress is vulgar and pretentious, would be sufficient argument against wearing London fashions in the country; but if this is not sufficient, we may picture the inconvenience of such a measure under certain circumstances. Had a shower of rain descended at the conclusion of the service, our two young sprigs of gentility would have looked superbly ridiculous in their thin boots and light gloves, and no London hansom to take refuge in, to say nothing of spoiling one's boots and catching cold.—Habits of Good Society.

A LION AND TIGER FIGHT.—A rather singular episode took place during the storm in the menagerie of M. Hebert, the naturalist, on the north jetty, at Havre. A fine royal tiger, which had been for some days in one of the cages, had conceived a strong affection for a magnificent lion, and the two animals lived together on the most friendly terms. On the night in question, whether the animals became alarmed by the violence of the wind, or whether some cause of quarrel had arisen between them, is not known, but a fight took place, as when M. Hebert entered the place in the morning he found the tiger strangled, and the lion walking round the dead body with all the triumph of a conqueror.

THE MIRAGE.—Many of our readers know nothing practically of the mirage, and thus they can neither appreciate the beauty of this deception nor estimate the disappointment it creates. I fear my pencil fails in rendering its magical effect, and my pen cannot give an adequate idea of its tantalising power on the thirsty traveller. It has, however, often fallen to my lot to witness it, when an apparent lake stretched out before me, tempting both men and animals to rush on and slake their burning thirst. Even after years of experience I have been deceived by this phenomenon, so real has it appeared, and many of its peculiar and magical effects has been preserved. Sometimes vast cities seemed rising on the plains, in which a multitude of towers, spires, domes, and columns were grouped together with a picturesque effect that neither poet nor painter could depict. And these were reflected in the deceptive fluid with all the distinctness of a mirror; at times a slight breeze seemed to ruffle the placid surface, destroying the forms for a few minutes, and then they reappeared.—Atkinson's Travels in the Amoor.

BIBLES AND NEW TESTAMENTS SOLD IN NAPLES.—The following is from the Naples correspondent of the Times, and published in that journal: "The greatest wonder of the day, and the fact which inspires the greatest hope for the future of this country is, that the Bible and the New Testament were exposed for sale in the Toledo yesterday. I have never seen them before, though they may have been lying there for some days; but let the 25th of September, 1860, be written in red letters in the history of the Two Sicilies, as 'the day when the true light of freedom was shed in this country—Diodati's Bibles selling in the streets of Naples!' Who could ever have believed it? They were English editions, and in the duodecimo form, and were a marvellous sight for the Neapolitans, for I have no hesitation in saying that not one man in a thousand has ever seen a Bible. Vast numbers could never have read it had they seen it, and certainly not one woman in a hundred could have read it, though the kingdom is teeming with priests, who assume to be the lights of the world. 'If the light that is in them be darkness, how great is that darkness!' How true, and how applicable in the present case?"

UNINTENTIONAL WIT.—In one of the English colonies a competitive examination was lately held for the purpose of appointing fit persons to some of the government offices. One of the candidates inadvertently spelt the word Venice with two *n's*—thus, Vennice. The examiner, a clever man, but not always a correct speaker, sternly enquired, "Do you not know, sir, that there is but one *hen* in Venice?" "Then eggs must be very scarce there," was the ready reply. The candidate passed.


Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 21st December, 1860.

TENDERS FOR PUBLIC WORKS and SUPPLIES.—TENDERS are invited for the following public works and supplies. For full particulars see GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, a file of which is kept at every police office in the colony.

| Nature of Works and Supplies. | Date to which Tenders can be received at this Office. |
|---|---|
| Construction of Punt for the Williams River, near Raymond Terrace | 12 o'clock noon, on Tuesday, 8th January, 1861. |
| Erection of Gaol at Armidale<br>Erection of Goal at Albury | 12 o'clock noon, on Tuesday, 15th January, 1861. |
| Erection of Toll House and Gates at the junction of the Wollombi and Singleton Roads | 12 o'clock, noon, on Tuesday, 22nd January, 1861. |
| Erection of Gaol at Braidwood | 12 o'clock, noon, on Tuesday, 29th January, 1861. |
| Designs for New Houses of Parliament | On 1st March, 1861. |

W. M. ARNOLD.

VICTORIA FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,
(Established in Melbourne 1849.)
SYDNEY BRANCH—Pitt-street, opposite the Empire Office.
Accumulated and Invested Capital, £208,000.
SYDNEY BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
A. B. SMITH, Esq., Chairman.
EDWARD WYLD, Esq.
R. PEEL RAYMOND, Esq.
Chairman of the Melbourne Board,
The Hon. HENRY MILLER, M.L.C.
SPECIAL FEATURES:
AMPLE SECURITY, MODERATE RATES OF PREMIUM, and the LIBERAL ADJUSTMENT and PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.
Marine Claims settled in SYDNEY or LONDON at the option of the insurer.
Insurances effected, and policies at once issued on application to
C. M. SMITH, Resident Secretary.
N.B.—Country agents wanted. Applicants must give reference to firms of respectability in Sydney.

VICTORIA LIFE and GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
SYDNEY BRANCH: Pitt-street, opposite the Empire Office.
Capital, £2,000,000.
SYDNEY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
A. B. SMITH, Esq., chairman.
EDWARD WYLD, Esq.
R. PEEL RAYMOND, Esq.
CHAIRMAN OF THE MELBOURNE BOARD:
The Honorable HENRY MILLER, M.L.C.
MEDICAL REFEREES:
JAMES ROBERTSON, M.D.
S. BOYD, M.D.
SPECIAL ADVANTAGES OFFERED TO THE INSURED:
The Security afforded by an ample capital, and the unlimited liability of a resident colonial proprietary.
The rates of Premium, which are the lowest that can be charged with safety.
The system of GUARANTEED BONUS, by which the amount recoverable at death is gradually increased from year to year by distinct stipulation, without involving the insured in the liability or risk accruing under the MUTUAL principle.
Tables of Rates, and forms of Proposal may be procured, and every other information furnished on application to
C. M. SMITH, resident secretary.

FIRE INSURANCE RATES OF PREMIUM.—The undersigned companies carrying the business of fire insurance in Sydney, announce that in consequence of the general adoption of pine timber in the construction of buildings in the place of colonial hardwood, and other causes, whereby much greater risk from fire is incurred, it has been deemed necessary to revise the rates of premium.

On and after 1st January, 1861, the following will be the minimum scale of rate per centum at which risks will be accepted by the offices subscribed:—

FIRST CLASS.

On buildings occupied as dwelling-houses or counting-houses only, constructed according to the Building Act as regards parapet and party walls.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. 1.—If constructed of brick or stone, covered with slate, tile, or metal, and detached, not less than | £0 3 0 |
| No. 2.—If constructed of brick or stone, covered with slate, tile, or metal, or adjoining slated buildings, not less than | 0 3 6 |
| No. 3.—If built and roofed as above, and adjoining shingled risks, not less than | 0 4 6 |
| No. 4.—If built of brick or stone, roofed with shingles and detached, not less than | 0 4 6 |
| No. 5.—If built as above with roofs shingled, adjoining slated buildings, or semi-detached, not less than | 0 5 6 |
| No. 6.—If built and roofed as above and attached to shingled houses not less than | 0 6 6 |

SECOND CLASS.

Buildings occupied for the storage of merchandise, or for purposes of trade of a non-hazardous description, constructed as above, according to the Building Act, will be

| | £ s. d. |
|---|---|
| No. 1.—If constructed of brick or stone, covered with slate, tile, or metal, and detached, not less than | 0 4 6 |
| No. 2.—If constructed of brick or stone, covered with slate, tile, or metal, semi-detached or adjoining slated buildings, not less than | 0 5 0 |
| No. 3.—If built and roofed as above, and adjoining shingled buildings, or semi-detached, not less than | 0 7 0 |
| No. 4.—If constructed of brick or stone, covered with shingles, and detached | 0 7 6 |
| No. 5.—If built and roofed like the above, and attached to slated buildings, not less than | 0 7 6 |
| No. 6.—If built and roofed as above, and attached to shingled risks, not less than | 0 10 0 |

On buildings where retail trades are carried on, an advance of not less than 15 per cent. upon these rates will be made.

On risks in the country an advance of 25 per cent. on these rates will be made.

THIRD CLASS.

On wooden buildings in Sydney, however constructed and roofed, occupied as private dwellings only, not less than 15s.

On wooden buildings, occupied as shops or stores in Sydney, not less than 21s.

On wooden buildings, occupied as shops or stores in suburbs or country towns, not less than 25s.

On buildings constructed exclusively of metal, not less than 10s.

On mill buildings, constructed of stone and brick, with slate or metal roof, not less than 21s.

On mill buildings, as above, with shingled roofs, not less than 25s.

Public-houses will be classed as retail trades.

(Signed) December, 24th, 1860.
Sydney Insurance Company,
JOSEPH DYER, Secretary.
Liverpool and London Insurance Company,
A. S LEATHES, Resident Secretary.
The Imperial Insurance Company,
GRIFFITHS, FANNING, and Co., agents.
The Northern Insurance Company,
WILLIAM RAE, Resident Secretary.
The Alliance Insurance Company,
THACKER, DANIELL, and Co., agents.
The Royal Insurance Company,
LAIDLEY, IRELAND, and Co., agents.
The Victoria Insurance Company,
C. M. SMITH, Resident Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY.—The Directors have the satisfaction to draw the attention of intending assurers to the important and peculiar privileges accorded to the Society by its ACT OF INCORPORATION, among which are the following:—
(1) The Protection to a gradually increasing amount of all its policies after an endurance of two years, against the operation of laws relating to insolvency.
(2) The Protection of Policies of Married Women against the debts or control of their husbands.
(3) For the encouragement of small assurers, their policies are relieved from the heavy tax involved in taking out letters of administration. &c.

ANNUAL PREMIUMS for Assurance of £100, with bonus additions.

| Age, | 25 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Premium, | £2 2 0 | £2 15 4 | £3 16 0 | £3 16 8 | £3 19 2 |

Comparative view of bonuses accruing to a Policy of Assurance of £500, effected at the age of 40 in different offices.

| | |
|---|---|
| As English Proprietary Company, ten premiums paid | £50 16 0 |
| Scottish "Widows' Fund" (Mutual), seven premiums paid | 0 0 0 |
| AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY, five premiums paid | 81 18 7 |

For full tables see prospectus.
General conditions as to surrenders, voyaging, residence abroad, loans to members, payment of claims, &c., &c., will be found to be more than usually liberal.
Prospectuses, printed forms, and all information may be obtained from any of the agents, or at the Principal Office.
ROBERT THOMSON, actuary and secretary.
Hunter-street, 15th February, 1859.

LIFE ASSURANCE.—The EUROPEAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY issues Policies, available in Europe, India, and the colonies, for Life Assurance, for Endowments, and for Annuities, upon terms and rates of the most liberal and beneficial character to policy-holders. Prospectuses and every information at the Sydney Branch Office of the Society, Wynyard-square; and at the branch offices in Melbourne, Adelaide, and Launceston.
J. G. WALLER and CO., agents, Wynyard-square, Sydney.

AUSTRALIAN JOINT STOCK BANK.—Notice is hereby given that interest is allowed by this Bank on fixed deposits as follows, namely,
At 5 per cent. per annum for a period of 12 months.
4 ditto ditto ditto 6 months.
3 ditto ditto ditto 3 months.
For the greater convenience of depositors, Bank Post Bills, with interest added at these rates, respectively, are issued payable to order, and are thus negotiable at any moment.
By order of the Board of Directors,
A. H. RICHARDSON, General Manager.
Sydney, 1st September.

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND AUSTRALIAN CHARTERED BANK.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1852.)
Paid-up Capital ... ... ... £500,000.
INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

| | | Per Annum. |
|---|---|---|
| Repayable on 7 days' notice | ... | 2½ per cent. |
| Ditto on 15 ditto ditto ... | ... | 3 ditto |
| Ditto on 3 months' ditto | ... | 4 ditto |
| Ditto on 6 ditto ditto... | ... | 5 ditto |
| Ditto on 12 ditto ditto... | ... | 5½ ditto |

On deposits of large amounts, interest according to special arrangement.
JOHN YOUNG, Manager.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)
Paid-up Capital ... ... ... £1,250,000
Reserve Fund ... ... ... 252,600
Interest will be allowed on fixed deposits, lodged after date, as under, viz.:—

| | Per Annum. |
|---|---|
| Subject to 7 days' notice of withdrawal | ... 2½ per cent. |
| Ditto 15 ditto... ... ... ... | ... 3 ditto |
| Ditto 3 months' ditto ... ... | ... 4 ditto |
| Ditto 6 ditto ditto ... ... ... | ... 5 ditto |
| Ditto 12 ditto ... ... ... ... | ... 5½ ditto |

Drafts are issued on the following Agencies of the Corporation in this colony:—
Adelong, Braidwood, Kiandra, Tumut, Yass, and Windeyer (Western Gold Fields).
GEORGE R. INGELOW, Manager.

In the Supreme Court of New South Wales.
Between BENJAMIN BUCHANAN, THOMAS SKINNER

BATHURST, SOPALA, ORANGE, and MUDGEE MAILS—TELEGRAPH LINE OF COACHES.—CRABE and ROBERTS having obtained the contract for conveyance of the above mails for the next three years, will commence running their AMERICAN COVERED COACHES daily from Parramatta and the above towns DAILY, on and after 1st January next. Passengers may now rely upon punctuality and civility.

In addition to the daily mails, they will also run an American covered coach three times a week, to and from Parramatta and Bathurst, viz.:—To leave Parramatta, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings on arrival of first train from Sydney—reaching Bathurst the following afternoon, and on return to leave Bathurst every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 5 a.m., and arriving in Parramatta the following afternoon, in time for the last train for Sydney. Passengers by the day coach will have no night travelling, and will have the advantage of a night's rest on the road.

BOOKING OFFICES:
Sydney—Mr. W. J. O'Brien, Tattersall's, Pitt-street.
Penrith—G. Kendall's Inn.
Mudgee—Hughson's Hotel
Sofala—Mendel's Hotel
Bathurst—Dennis Gayner's Inn.

N.B.—Families wishing to travel can have the benefit of the whole coach, under special arrangement, upon giving one day's notice.

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS for CHRISTMAS and the NEW YEAR.—A variety of choice illustrated works on SALE by the undersigned, many of which have just arrived by the last mail, among which may be enumerated—Three Gems at One Sitting, Art Album, Eliza Cook's Poems, May Queen, Moral Emblems, James Montgomery's Poems, Tennyson's Miller's Daughter, Loves of the Poets, Dreamland, Poetry of Nature, &c., &c. Also, a great variety of books of standard character. English Poets, &c., &c., in elegant calf and morocco bindings. JAMES W. WAUGH, 286, George-street.

WAUGH'S AUSTRALIAN ALMANAC, 1861.—The Secretaries or other Office Bearers of Societies and Public Companies which have been formed during the past year, or inadvertently omitted in previous issues, are requested to communicate particulars of the same, in order that they may be inserted in the proper place in the forthcoming volume.

Advertisements are requested to be sent in as early as possible.

JAMES W. WAUGH, 286, George-street.

BOOKS and STATIONERY of every description. E. MASON, Parramatta. Orders by post punctually attended to.

HAIR JEWELLERY for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—G. C. COOKE, artist in hair begs to inform ladies and gentlemen resident in town or country, that he beautifully plaits and elegantly mounts in gold, hair bracelets, chains, alberts, brooches, rings, pins, studs, &c., suitable for Christmas presents, and forwards the same carefully packed to any part of the colonies. G. C. COOKE, Artist in Hair and Jeweller, 239, Pitt-street, near King-street.

GRAND EXHIBITION OF NEEDLE-WORK.—90, Market-street, East. W. READING has just opened, per Spirit of the North, a splendid assortment of needlework, cushions, slippers, screens, and ottomans, in raised and bead work.

CANVAS, wool, silk, filoselle, Scotch knitting yarn, and embroidery cotton, at 90, Market-street.

BRAID and silk, hair nets, large size. W. READING, 90, Market-street.

LIMERICK LACE.—Just received, ex overland mail, direct from the manufacturer, a small invoice of the above, comprising dresses, collars, sleeves, handkerchiefs, &c. Will be sold cheap. M'MAHON, 410, George-st.

TO SETTLERS AND STOREKEEPERS.—The undersigned have constantly on hand:—
Woolpacks, 10 to 6½ lb.; woolbagging, all widths
Bags, sewing twine, fine and coarse
Sheepshears, Sorby's and Wilkinson's
Sugars, rice, tea, flour, and tobacco
Mole trousers, Scotch twill shirts
Wines and spirits, &c.
And every article requisite on a station.
JAMES MOST and CO., 175, Pitt-street.

GLENDRONACH WHISKY.—This celebrated Whisky, from the Royal Distillery, on SALE at the Stores of the undersigned. JAMES MORT and CO.

DR. PERCY and CO. may be consulted daily on every disease incident to the human frame, and particularly on nervous debility, whether hereditary or acquired.

Letters from the country must contain the consulting fee of £1, with a full description of the case.

Medicines can be sent in a condensed form to suit all complaints, throughout the colonies by post.

Elizabeth-street North, near Hunter-street.

WORM POWDERS entirely superseded by DAYBELL and CO.'S Worm Lozenges, which are now declared by thousands in and around Sydney to be the most speedy, certain, and agreeable medicine ever discovered for the expulsion of worms, either from children or adults. Prepared exclusively by A. J. WATT and CO., 534, George-street, opposite Police Office, Sydney, and sold by their appointed agents.

SUNBURN LOTION, for removing the pain and inflammation caused by exposure to the sun, free from all poisonous ingredients. Prepared by GEORGE HEATH, chemist (from Savory and Moore, London), 334, George-street.

HARPUR TWELVETREES' SOAP and Baking Powders, sold by Mr. JOHN HUGHES, grocer, 423, George-street, and all grocers and druggists. Wholesale agency, 89, York-street.

WASHING WITHOUT RUBBING.—The greatest blessing to Housekeepers is HARPER TWELVETREES' SOAP POWDER, for cheap and easy washing without rubbing. All who have tried it are delighted and astonished at the saving of time, trouble, labour, firing, soap, tongue, and temper. The family wash no longer makes everybody cross, for it may be done before breakfast without the family knowing what is going on. Twenty minutes boiling is sufficient. It contains no injurious ingredient whatever. Be particular and insist upon having "HARPER TWELVETREES' SOAP POWDER." Works—Bromley-by-Bow, London.—E.

Sold by most Grocers and Druggists. Wholesale Agency, 89, York-street, Sydney.

ON SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED:—
Adelaide flour, Hart's brand
Woolpacks, 16lbs. full, in bales of 50 and 100
3-bushel bags, in bales of ditto
Canvas of fine quality, assorted numbers
English spunyarn, in coils
Hysonskin, in chests and halves, superior quality
Peek, Frean, and Co.'s aerated biscuits
Chubb's fireproof safes, locks, and cash boxes.
W. H. ELDRED, 304, Exchange-corner

J. G. WALLER and CO. call attention to some choice Claret, in one dozen cases, which they can strongly recommend.

Also, sparkling Hock and Champagne.
J. G. WALLER and CO.,
Wine and spirit merchants, Wynyard-square.

HOOP IRON for SALE.—Apply to Mr. GREEN, HERALD Office.

WINNOWING MACHINES, (Grant's patent.) MOSES, MOSS, and CO. Wynyard-lane.

PERUVIAN GUANO.—The undersigned having received instructions to ship the remainder of the stock of Peruvian Guano to Melbourne, recommend those parties who have been in the habit of using it to secure a supply within next week. THACKER, DANIELL, and CO. 10, O'Connell-street.

FREE SELECTION, BUT NO DEFERRED PAYMENTS.—ALEXANDER MOORE and COMPANY having received a large consignment of furniture, crockery, glassware, chimney and toilet glasses, brass and iron bedsteads, cots, &c., ex Queen of the Avon, Duncan Dunbar, &c., beg to announce that their immense stock, the largest in the Australian colonies, is now open for selection, at cash prices, and at a considerable reduction from that hitherto offered. Labour Bazaar, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, Pitt-street, Sydney.

DIVING APPARATUS.—C. E. HEINKE, Submarine Engineer, 79, Great Portland-street, London, begs to call the attention of shipowners, merchants, captains, &c., &c., to the important improvement made by him in the SUBMARINE HELMET, DRESS, and APPARATUS, which enables a diver to remain any length of time under water for the recovery of property from wrecks, making and repairing foundations of harbours and bridges, and also for Pearl and Sponge Diving.

WAVERLEY.—BROAD SOUND.—For SALE, this first-class CATTLE STATION, with 1400 head of cattle. There are five blocks of magnificent country, and the improvements are new and of the best description. For terms apply to LOTZE and LARNACH.

FOR SALE, 3000 EWES from the Collaroy flocks, deliverable in March next. 1000 head mixed store cattle, from the Collaroy herd, can be delivered without delay. For particulars apply to ROWLAND J. TRAILL, Esq., Collaroy, Merrivs, or to GRIFFITHS, FANNING, and CO., Spring-street, Sydney.

FOR SALE, in the Wide Bay district, about 4600 EWES and 3000 to 4000 WETHERS, former 2 to 6, and latter 2 to 5 years old, all good sheep: ewes deliverable in March next, wethers any time after shearing. Apply to GRIFFITHS, FANNING, and CO., Sydney, or to W. H. WALSH, Esq., Degilbo, Gayndah, Wide Bay.

STORE WETHERS.—For SALE, 9000 prime STORE WETHERS, from 3 to 5 years old, deliverable at Rylstone, near Mudgee, on the 1st November, 1860. For price and further particulars, apply to H. W. BLOMFIELD, Lower Rylstone; or to EDWARD R. COX Rawden, Rylstone.

SALES BY AUCTION.

BURT and CO. will sell by auction, at their Bazaar, Pitt and Castlereagh streets, THIS DAY, Friday, the 28th instant, at 11 o'clock,
A choice lot of useful young horses from the Klama district.
Also several other country lots.

HORSE BAZAAR, Pitt and Castlereagh streets, Sydney
Established 1847.
BURT and CO., hold a regular sale by auction every day at 11 o'clock.
Horses intended for sale should arrive at the Bazaar, accompanied by instructions, one day previous, in order to be properly dressed, tried, and shown.
The usual cash advances on invoices of saddlery, gigs, carriages, and other vehicles intended for unreserved sale, for which there is ample room under cover.
The private livery stables adjoin the Castlereagh-street entrance, and are wholly distinct from the sale stables.

Gig Horse.

BURT and CO. will sell by auction, at their Bazaar, Pitt and Castlereagh streets, THIS DAY, Friday, the 28th instant,
A well-bred, showy horse, excellent in double harness, fast in a gig, and a capital hack.

THIS DAY'S Horse Sales.

BURT and CO. will sell by auction, at the Bazaar, THIS DAY, Friday, 28th December,
Several superior draught mares and horses
A lot of prime young horses, from Klama
2 gig horses, from Windsor
A fast, showy dogcart horse
A pony mare, quiet for children
And about 30 other horses of various descriptions. Also,
A good country gig, in first-rate order; gig harness, new
Spring carts, drays, &c., &c.

Children's Pony.

BURT and CO. will sell by auction, at their Bazaar, Pitt and Castlereagh streets, THIS DAY, Friday; December 28th, at 11 o'clock,
A handsome cream coloured mare, quiet, and suitable for young people.

BURT and CO. will sell by auction, THIS DAY, Friday, 28th instant, at 11 o'clock,
A bay mare, quiet in harness
A gig in good repair, nearly new
Set of gig harness, new. Also,
A brown gelding, first-rate in gig or dogcart.

Horses
Carriage
Harness, &c.

The property of Clark Irving, Esq., leaving for England.

MR. C. MARTYN has been instructed by Clark Irving, Esq., to sell by auction, at the Bazaar, on SATURDAY, January 12th, at 12 o'clock,
A handsome and well-bred pair of carriage horses, stand about 15 hands 2 inches high, bays, with black points—a good match. They were bred by Mr. Reynolds, of Tocal
A light and roomy carriage, English-built, in good order
Also, double set of harness, silver-mounted, &c.
Stable utensils, &c.

THIS DAY.

Sale of Horses and Spring Carts, &c.

MR. S. WOOLLER will sell by auction, at his Horse Repository, Pitt-street, THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock,
7 good saddle horses, with saddles and bridles
4 excellent gig or carriage horses
5 heavy cart horses, subject to trial
1 handsome boy's pony, very quiet
Horses and carts, dogcarts, spring-carts, saddles, &c.
Terms, cash.

Preliminary Notice.

Government House.

MR. ROBERT MURIEL has been honoured with instructions from his Excellency Sir William Denison, K.C.B., to sell by public auction, at Government House, on an early day next month (January), of which due notice will be given,
The whole of his Excellency's truly valuable furniture and effects
Library of books
Silver plate, plated-ware
Richly-cut glass, china, &c.

N.B.—Every particular will be given in a few days by advertisement, so that parties in the country, or otherwise, will have ample opportunity to make necessary arrangements to attend this unquestionably important sale.

Sale of Unclaimed Goods, Luggage, &c.

ANDREW ALLAN has received instructions from James Paterson, Esq., Manager of the A. S. N. Company, to sell by public auction, at the Company's Wharf, on MONDAY, 31st instant, at 11 o'clock,
The list of goods, luggage, &c., previously advertised as being unclaimed, and now in the A. S. N. Co.'s possession.
Terms, cash.

Unredeemed Pledges.

MR. J. M. HUGHES will sell by public auction, THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock, on the premises of Mr. Josephs, pawnbroker, King-street,
Unredeemed pledges, pawned with him as previously advertised, consisting of clothing, silk dresses, tools, watches, jewellery, &c.
Terms, cash.

☞ Great Auction Sale of
Tobacco
Cigars, &c., &c.

On MONDAY Morning next, December 31st, 1860, at the Argyle Bond, Argyle-street, at the hour of eleven o'clock punctually.

Most important
To Tobacconists
To Merchants
To Country Buyers
To Shippers
To Speculators
And the Trade generally.
Without the slightest reserve.

JOHN G. COHEN has been favoured with instructions to sell, at the Argyle Bond, on MONDAY, December 31st, 1860, at 11 o'clock precisely,
50 quarter-tierces Assz twist tobacco
9 half-tierces Cheeves eagle brand tobacco, slightly damaged
17 quarter-tierces Thomas eagle negrohead, in first-rate order, and a very superior sample of tobacco
98 boxes of pound lump tobacco, in good condition
25 cases Havannah-shaped manilas, finest sample in the market
3 small kegs of duty paid negrohead, first-rate quality, to close an account
Terms at sale.

FRIDAY next, 28th December, 1860.

By order of the Executors in the estate of the late E. Salamon, Esq.

To Merchants, Bankers, Companies, and others.

JOHN G. COHEN will sell, at the office of the late E. Salamon, Esq., Margaret-street, THIS DAY, December 28, 1860, at 11 o'clock precisely,
The whole of the office furniture, viz.:—
One large double fireproof safe (Smiteth), fitted with drawers and cupboards, adapted for any public or banking company
Gold scales, office dial, washstand
Counter and fittings, lamp, double desk
Table, copying press, filter
Office stools, sundry maps
Seven cane-seated chairs, whatnots
Small round table, secretaire, spring drawers
Leather and damask-seated chairs
Enclosed washstand, book shelf
Pedestal double desk, fitted with numerous drawers, suitable for a public office and bank
Stove and fire irons
Alarm guns, soda water powders
Rostrum and hammer, filters
Occasional table, sofa, table with drawers
One case plateware
Watchmaker's materials, springs, glasses, &c.
Rosewood cabinet and drawers
Lot of sundries, cigars, &c.
Without reserve.
Terms at sale.

Fat Lambs, from the Hunter.
Fat Calves, from the Clarence.

THIS DAY, Friday, at half-past 2 o'clock.

W. PRITCHARD will sell by auction, at his new yard, Market Wharf,
60 prime fat lambs
10 ditto ditto calves.
Terms, cash.

Flour, Bran, Bacon, Lucerne Hay, &c.

THIS DAY, at half-past 2 o'clock.

W. PRITCHARD will sell by auction, at his new stores, Market Wharf,
5 tons H. B. fine flour
80 bags fresh flaky bran
40 sides first-rate bacon
40 bales splendid lucerne hay.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.

Rosewood Cottage Pianoforte, by Towns and Co., Oxford-street, makers to her Majesty.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) has received instructions to sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
A valuable rosewood pianoforte by Towns and Co., Oxford-street, makers to her Majesty, 6½ octaves, with all the latest improvements, and nearly new, cost in London seventy guineas.
The above, being the property of a widow lady proceeding to Adelaide, will positively be sold.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.

Two Gold Watches
One Gold Repeater
One very small Lady's Watch and Chain
Australian Coast Charts, by Stebbing
Australian Directories, by ditto
Marble Vases
Alabaster ditto
And Sundries, too numerous to advertise.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) has received instructions to sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
The above, to close various accounts.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.

Moderator Lamps
Hall and Swing Lamps
Paper shades and Wicks.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. R. Muriel) will sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
An assortment of the above, to close a consignment.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.

Adams' Revolvers.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) will sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
BE in triangle over B, § 529.
One small case well finished revolvers.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.

Milner's Patent Safe, size No. 2.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) will sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY next, the 29th December, at 11 o'clock,
One Milner's patent fire-proof safe, size No. 2.
Terms, cash.

Preliminary Notice.

Cowper-terrace, Church-hill.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) has received instructions from the proprietor to sell by auction, at his residence, Cowper-terrace, Church-hill, on an early day,
Dining and drawing room furniture
Two first-class pianofortes
Plated-ware, cut glass, china, &c.
And a variety of sundries.
Full particulars will appear in a future advertisement.

On SATURDAY, 29th December.

Handsome Bay Carriage Horse, sixteen hands high, accustomed to town, and well adapted for a phaeton.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel), has received instructions to sell by auction, in his extensive Yard, at the rear of his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at half-past 12 o'clock precisely,
A fine upstanding bay carriage horse, sixteen hands high, perfectly quiet and sound; any trial or warranty will be given, and he can be seen prior to the sale, on application to the auctioneer.
The owner parts with him solely on account of his having little or no use for him.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.
At half-past 10 o'clock.

Mahogany Loo Table
Dining Table by Smee, London
Mahogany Couch and Chairs, in Haircloth
Double-winged Wardrobe made by Hunt
One Ladies' Ditto
Pianoforte by Charles Cadby
Valuable and Useful Books
Plated Ware, Pictures, and Glassware
Bedsteads, Hair Mattresses, &c., &c.
Large Carpet, and Sundries

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) has received instructions (from a gentleman who is moving into a smaller house than the one he now occupies), to sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th December, at half-past 10 o'clock precisely,
A part of his very valuable furniture, books, and engravings, comprising—
Dining table by Smee, eight feet long, with spare leaves
Pianoforte 6½ octaves, by Cadby
Double-winged wardrobe, ladies' ditto
Loo table, chests drawers, bedsteads
Plated ware, and cut glass, &c.
Books:—27 vols. Cuvier's Animal Kingdom, illustrated
British Ballads, illustrated
Essays of Elia, by Charles Lamb
Hebrew and English Polyglot Bible
Eight vols. Lives British Painters, by Allan Cunningham
And a variety of other useful works.
Terms, cash.

On SATURDAY, the 29th December.

To Country Gentlemen and others.

Large Bagatelle Table.
Cues and Balls, complete.

MR. WALTER BRADLEY (late with Mr. Robert Muriel) has received instructions to sell by auction, at his Rooms, 264, George-street, opposite Jamison-street, on SATURDAY next, the 29th December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
One bagatelle table, 10 feet x 2 feet 6 inches, with self-adjusting stand
Cues and balls complete.
Terms, cash.

☞ On SATURDAY, 29th instant, at 11 o'clock precisely.

The Property of a Bachelor giving up Housekeeping.

First-class—but a small assortment of
Really good Furniture, Cottage Pianoforte,
Engravings, China, Cut-Glass, and sundries, &c.

MR. ROBERT MURIEL has received instructions to sell by public auction, at his Rooms, Wynyard-street, on SATURDAY, the 29th instant at 11 o'clock precisely,
Quantity of useful household furniture and effects, consisting of,—
A sideboard, easy chairs, telescope table, dining-room chairs, sofa, round table, pier-glass, fenders and fire-irons, brussells' carpet and rug, pianoforte, framed engravings, nick-nacks, bed-room furniture, iron bedstead—4-post, and bedding, stretcher, chest of drawers, sofa, and a variety of articles just adapted for a bachelor's establishment.
Terms, cash.

Richmond Cedar.
Only cargo at present for sale in Sydney.
Ex Black Diamond.

To Timber Merchants, Builders, Contractors, Cabinet-makers, and others.

MONDAY, 31st December.

For Positive Sale.

LE. THRELKELD and CO. have been instructed to sell by auction, on Green's Wharf, foot of Bathurst-street, on MONDAY AFTERNOON, 31st instant, at half-past 12,
The cargo of superior cedar, ex Black Diamond.
45,000 feet Richmond cedar.

The auctioneers wish to call the attention of the trade and other buyers to the fact that this vessel, owing to her light draught of water in proportion to her tonnage, was the only one of those lying in the river which succeeded in crossing the bar. One vessel, which attempted to come out at the same time, was unfortunately wrecked, so that no more cedar need be expected in the Sydney market for some months.

The cargo is of very superior quality and large size, the logs all containing over 1000 feet—many of them 3,000 to 4000—a size which renders them exceedingly suitable for cabinetmakers and others requiring superior timber of large scantling.

Terms at sale.

Clearing-out sale.
To close accounts at the end of the year.
Drapery, Slops, &c.

95 Packages, now landing from the Walter Hood, Duncan Dunbar, and other late arrivals.
To Warehousemen, Drapers, Storekeepers, and the Trade.

On FRIDAY, 28th, at 11 o'clock sharp.

MESSRS. CHAS. MOORE and CO. have received instructions to sell by auction, at their Rooms, Pitt-street, on the above day,
95 packages seasonable drapery, slops, &c.
Terms, liberal.

FRIDAY, 28th December.

To Parties Furnishing, Dealers, and others.

PURKIS and LAMBERT will sell by auction, at their Mart, George-street, THIS DAY, 28th instant, at 11 o'clock,
An assortment of household furniture, comprising
Chairs, tables, sofas
Beds, bedding, curtains
Chests of drawers, looking glasses
Sofas, forms, deal tables
Tubs, buckets, boilers
Cooking utensils, crockery, &c., &c.
Terms, cash.

Woodburn, near Picton.
Sale by Public Auction, MONDAY, 31st December.

Elegant, useful, and ornamental Household Furniture
Tapestry and Brussels Carpets, Sideboards, Chairs, Tables
Plated and Glassware, Pianoforte, Shower and Footbaths
Bedsteads, Wardrobes, Chests of Drawers, Washstands, &c.
Mattresses, Palliasses, Feather Beds, &c., &c., &c.
Dairy and Farmers' Implements, Saddles, Bridles, &c.
Prince Albert Phaeton, Horses and Plated Harness, Carts,
Working Bullocks, Pigs, 20 head Springers, 15 yearlings, and 50 head poultry
3 Horses, broken to saddle, side-saddle, and harness
Brass-mounted Harness; Stores, viz: Tea, Sugar, Salt, Soap, and Rice.

FREDERICK BRADLY has received instructions from J. Simons, Esq., to sell by public auction, at his residence, as above, on MONDAY, 31st December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
The whole of his valuable furniture, stock, &c., &c.
Terms at sale.
Catalogues can be had of the auctioneer, Pitt-street, or of J. Simons, Esq., of Woodburn.

Weekly Produce Sale.

THIS DAY, 28th December.
Circular Quay.

Wool, Sheepskins, Tallow, Hides, Horns, Bones, &c.

MESSRS. DURHAM and IRWIN will sell by auction, at their Produce Stores, Circular Quay, at 11 o'clock precisely,
205 bales wool
1150 sheepskins
33 casks tallow
450 hides
Bacon, horns, shankbones, &c.
Terms, cash.

Prime Corn-fed Bacon.

THIS DAY, 28th December.

MESSRS. DURHAM and IRWIN will sell by auction, at their Produce Stores, Circular Quay, at half-past 11 o'clock,
A quantity of corn-fed bacon.
Terms, cash.

Treasury Auction Rooms.

THIS DAY, FRIDAY, 28th December.

☞ Notice to Stationers, Grocers, Storekeepers, and others.

CHATTO and HUGHES remind the above of their sales THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock,
☞ For positive unreserved sale to close accounts.
About thirty packages of general stationery, printing papers, &c.

Treasury Auction Rooms.

THIS DAY, Friday, 28th December.
To Stationers
To Grocers
To Storekeepers and others.
General Clearing-out Sale of
Hand-made Paper
Hand-made Foolscap
Hand-made Medium
M. Foolscaps
Ditto Posts
Ditto Note Paper
Account Books, hand-made
Cards, Fancy and General Stationery.

About Thirty Packages of the above Goods, to close accounts for the end of the year, without any reserve.

CHATTO and HUGHES have received instructions to sell by auction, at their Rooms, THIS DAY, Friday, December 28th,
A large lot of general stationery, for the purpose of closing accounts in this department up to the end of the year.
Thirty packages, more or less (some of them broken), consisting of
Extra S. C. L. post, fine B. W. post 4to
Large B. W. post, fine cream laid
Blue laid foolscap, 13 lbs.
Blue ditto ditto, 14 lbs.
Blue wove ditto, 15 lbs.
Foolscap ledgers, H. M. foolscap, indexed, 4 quires
Ditto ditto ditto, ditto, 5 quires
Ditto ditto ditto, ditto, 6 ditto
Ditto ditto ditto, 7 and 8 ditto
Foolscap journals, ditto laid, 5, 6, 7, 8 quires
Foolscap cash books ditto, 2½ quires
Foolscap cash ditto, 3, 4, 5, 6 quires
Foolscap day books, ditto 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, titled and paged
Fine B. L. foolscap ditto, 14 lbs.
Fine ditto ditto, ditto 12 lbs.
Printing demy, 20, 18, 16, 14 lbs.
Fine royal printing, 22, 20, 24 lbs.
3rd small, large, double small, small tinted cards
Superfine D printing, 17, 18 lbs.
Superfine ditto ditto, 20, 22, 24 lbs.
Superfine royal printing, 20, 23 lbs.
Superfine ditto ditto, 24 lbs.
Dark yellow demy, green and assorted
Yellow and pink and rainbow, 24 lbs.
Extra superfine M B. laid foolscap, 13 lbs.
Ditto ditto ditto, 13 lbs.
Superfine ditto ditto, 14 lbs.
Foolscap 8vo., faint and red, blue and red
Book B. W. P., quarter bound
Metallic memo. books, 18mo, faint and red, quarter bound, &c., &c.
Superfine H. M. B. laid double foolscap, 22 lbs.
Ditto ditto foolscap, 16, 14, 15 lbs.
Fine yellow W. post, 16 lbs.
Extra superfine C. L. post, Whatman's, 17, 14, 16 lbs.
Blue commercial envelopes, No. 6
Cream and ditto ditto, ditto
Penholders, quills, pencils, I. bands, rulers, 12 to 21 inch
Brown papers 30, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120 lbs.
Printing demy
Printing coloured demy
Printing rainbow demy
Assorted weights.
Terms liberal, at sale.
☞ The trade will have a good opportunity of sorting up, or laying in stock for the coming year at this sale, as it will be without reserve.

Treasury Auction Rooms.
Drapery Sale.

MONDAY, 31st December.

To Drapers
To Storekeepers and others.

CHATTO and HUGHES have received instructions from the importers to sell by auction, at the Treasury Auction Rooms, on MONDAY, 31st December, at 11 o'clock precisely,
53 bales and cases of new and seasonable drapery, just landed, ex Daphne, comprising
Black glace mantles, printed pongees, China bandanas, mull muslins
Whisker blonds, muslin scarfs, jaconet collars, and sets lace handkerchiefs
Jaconet, scollops, veined insertions, cambric flouncings, crossover muslins
Brown cotton socks, Clarke's sewing cotton, forfar crinoline bonnets
Flounced muslin robes, French bareges, chalii plaids
Toilet quilts, muslin curtains, 9-4, 10-4 blankets, Turkey twills
Picture pockets, dwarf blinds, chene crossovers, printed muslins
Coloured lence, Scotch tweeds, madder bandannas, damasks
Chalii dresses, towels, silk umbrellas, 9-4 ginghams, spotted muslins
Fringed toilets, white meckiin magpie blonds, souffle falls, cap fronts
White and black silk lace, bugle lace, Saxony edging, bugle lace
Mosquito netts, sultana falls, bordered tweeds, Egyptian edging, island prints
Plain and figured lence, tarlatan muslins, jaconets
Waist ribbons, chalits, white kid gloves, hemp carpets, half window holands
Black coburgs, union drill, book chemisettes, head dresses
White cotton hose, Turkey pockets, nett curtains, nett bed covers.

Terms at sale.

On account of whom it may concern.
Ex Omar Pasha, from London.

Tupper and Co.'s Galvanized Iron.
Damaged.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO. will sell by auction, at their Warehouse, Pitt and O'Connell streets, THIS DAY, 28th December, at 11 o'clock,
Ex Omar Pasha,
210 sheets Tupper and Co.'s "best best" galvanized corrugated iron, 26 gauge, 6 feet long, slightly damaged
300 ditto ditto ditto, very slightly ditto
60 ditto ditto ditto, much ditto
256 ditto ditto ditto, 7 feet long, much damaged
260 ditto ditto ditto, ditto, slightly ditto
12 ditto ditto ditto, ditto, very slightly ditto
86 ditto ditto ditto, 8 feet long, much ditto
124 ditto ditto ditto, ditto, slightly ditto
48 ditto ditto ditto, ditto, very slightly ditto.
Terms, cash.

American Tubs and Buckets,
To Grocers, Storekeepers, and others.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO. will sell by auction, at their Warehouse, Pitt and O'Connell streets, THIS DAY, 28th December, at 11 o'clock,
19 nests American tubs
40 dozen ditto buckets.
100 ditto D handled round point mining shovels
80 ditto L ditto ditto ditto
Terms at sale.

Extensive Sale of Oilmen's Stores, Groceries.

THURSDAY, 3rd January, 1861.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO. will sell by auction, at their Warehouse, Pitt and O'Connell streets, on THURSDAY, 3rd January, 1861, at 11 o'clock,
Several invoices groceries and oilmen's stores, new goods lately arrived.
Terms at sale.

On account of whom it may concern.
Damaged Tobacco,
Ex Homer and Solway.

Auction Sale, at Lamb's Bond, on MONDAY, 31st December.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO. will sell by auction, at Lamb's Bonded Stores, on MONDAY, 31st December, at 11 o'clock,
On account of whom it may concern,
Slightly damaged by overstowing,
Ex Homer,
12 half-tierces tobacco.
Ex Solway,
4 ditto ditto, ditto.
Terms, cash.

Wax Vestas, in tin boxes.

For Sale by Auction,
THIS DAY.

To Grocers, Tobacconists, and others.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO. will sell by auction, at their Warehouse, Pitt and O'Connell streets, THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock,
Without reserve,
2155—1 case, 25 gross wax vestas, in tins, 250's
2156—1 ditto, 10 ditto ditto, ditto, 500's
2157—1 ditto, 5 ditto ditto, ditto 1000's
3 ditto, each 8 ditto ditto, ditto, 500's
2 ditto, ditto 5 ditto ditto, ditto, 1000's.
Terms at sale.

Important to Grocers, Shippers, and Country Storekeepers.

The entire cargo of the Mary Nicholson, from Batavia, consisting of
Rice, Sugars, Sago, Pepper
Cloves, Mace, Nutmegs
Rattans, &c., &c.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO have received instructions from the importers, Messrs. R. Towns and Co., to sell by auction, at their Warehouse, Pitt and O'Connell streets, on THURSDAY next, the 3rd January, at 11 o'clock prompt,
The entire cargo of the Mary Nicholson, viz.:—
1439 bags Company's best selected Java rice (equal to the best Carolina)
400 boxes fine white pearl sago
148 bags Company's selected white pepper
572 best black pepper
21 cases cloves
2 ditto mace
24 ditto Company's No. 1 nutmegs; also,
2441 bags of a very superior counter sugar, unequalled by anything yet imported to these colonies
3306 bundles rattans.
The auctioneers particularly request that the trade will make themselves fully acquainted with the quality of these superior goods previous to day of sale. Samples of the cargo can be seen at the office of the auctioneers.
Terms, liberal, at sale.

Preliminary Notice.
Boots and Shoes.
A new Shipment, just landed.

For Positive Sale by Auction
On FRIDAY, 4th January.

To Boot and Shoe Makers, Country Buyers, Shippers, and others.

MESSRS. W. DEAN and CO. will sell by auction, at their Warehouse, Pitt and O'Connell streets, on FRIDAY, 4th January, at 11 o'clock,
140 trunks seasonable boots and shoes.
Particulars in future advertisements.

Boots, Watches, Clothing, &c.

ALEXANDER MOORE and CO. will sell by auction, at the Mart, Labour Bazaar, Pitt-street, THIS DAY, at 11 o'clock,
Men's and boys' boots
Gold and silver watches and jewellery
4 boxes second-hand clothing and sundries.
Terms, cash.

Weekly Produce Sale, Railway Terminus.

THOMAS DAWSON will sell by auction, at the Railway Terminus, THIS DAY, Friday, 28th December, at 12 o'clock,
Prime fat calves
Prime fat pigs
Butter, poultry, eggs, &c.
Hay, posts and rails
And the usual variety of colonial produce.

Fat Cattle. Fat Cattle.

THOMAS DAWSON is instructed by Henry Moore, Esq., to sell by auction, at the Homebush Sale Yards, on WEDNESDAY, the 2nd January, 1861, at half-past 10 sharp,
140 head of prime fat cattle.
These cattle are from the celebrated herds of Andrew Brown, Esq., Castlereagh River.

Butchers. Butchers. Butchers.

MR. W. FULLAGAR has received instructions from Mr. Boston, to sell, at his Yards, Western Road, on MONDAY next, the 31st of December, at 12 o'clock,
179 head of prime fat cattle, in lots to suit purchasers.

Horses. Horses. Horses.

G. M. PITT has received instructions from W. Bell, Esq., to sell by auction, on MONDAY next, the 31st instant, at the Cattle Yards, Sydney, at 11 o'clock,
30 head of useful horses, consisting of colts and fillies, fresh from the interior

Campbelltown.

MR. JOHN SHEA has received instructions to sell by auction, at the Railway Yards, Campbelltown, on WEDNESDAY next, January 2nd, 1861,
A team of 6 powerful draught horses, with harness, and one double-shaft dray.
They will be sold singly, or in pairs, or in one lot.
Terms at sale.
Sale at 1 o'clock.

MR. BERESFORD has received instructions from Mr. John Higgerson, of the Liverpool Racecourse, to sell
All his dairy and young stock, consisting of about 50 head.
The sale to commence at half-past 3 p.m., on Saturday, the 29th instant.

Gosford, Brisbane Water.
Black Horse.
On account of whom it may concern.

W. ROBERTS will sell by public auction, on the run of William J. Nun, Esq., Erina Creek, Gosford, on WEDNESDAY, 2nd January, 1861, at 12 o'clock,
Aged up-standing black horse, unbroken, brand illegible.
The above, having been duly advertised in the Sydney Morning Herald and not claimed within the time specified, is now sold to defray expenses.
Terms, cash.
☞ The horse may be viewed any time prior to the sale on application to Mr. William Roberts, licensed surveyor, and auctioneer, Gosford.

Royal Victoria Hotel, Shoalhaven.
To Hotel Keepers, Capitalists, Trustees, and others.
Seventeen Years' Lease of these First-rate Business Premises, situated in the most central and populous part of Shoalhaven.

HENRY G. MORTON has received instructions to offer for public competition, in the Large Room of the Royal Victoria Hotel, Shoalhaven, on THURSDAY, 3rd January, at 3 o'clock p.m.,
Seventeen Years' Lease of the Royal Victoria Hotel premises, including kitchen, stabling, &c., with half an acre of ground, the whole being subject to a ground rent of fifty pounds per year.

The auctioneer would beg to call the attention of hotel-keepers and others to the sale of this property. The premises are new, and substantially built of brick, on one of the most thriving and business sites in Shoalhaven, fronting the Steam Company's Wharf, opposite the Commercial Banking Company's ground, and at the junction of the Southern and Illawarra Roads.

The hotel is substantially built of brick, with iron roof, and contains fourteen apartments, of which there are all the well-arranged complement of bedrooms, sitting-rooms, bar rooms, and assembly-room.

The basement floor contains—Large and roomy bar, with commodious cellar underneath; large bar or commercial room, two sitting-rooms, two bedrooms, and drawing room. This floor is divided by a wide and lofty hall, which renders the private apartments quite distinct and separate from those of the business.

The chamber floor contains—Large assembly room, 40 x 16, well lighted and ventilated; also, six large and roomy bedrooms.

The kitchen is situated at the rear of the house, and is a large and convenient building, quite new, 40 x 20, built of weatherboards, with new roof.

The stables are built of slabs, with shingled roof, and contain 6 stalls and 3 loose boxes.

There is also a good bricked well of water in the yard.

There is attached to the lease,

## HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

By the Junction we have received Honolulu papers to the 2nd November inclusive.

The session of the Hawaiian Parliament, which had just closed, seemed to have been a rather laborious one. The civil code had been modified in several respects, and certain changes in the constitution had been recommended by the King, which would have, according to law, to stand over for a year before they could be adopted, but the adoption of which was considered certain. Among these was a provision for vest the powers of regency in the Queen on the demise of the King, during the minority of the heir apparent or the temporary absence or illness of the former.

The means of repressing "the great social evil," and of staying the decrease of the aboriginal race, had received a large share of legislative attention, and several Acts had, for these purposes, and after much discussion, been passed. The object or rather operation of these laws may be thus defined: an increased stringency in the penalties for violations of public decency, and in the measures for preventing husbands and wives from deserting each other, or their children; an adoption of the continental system of license, and of medical and police surveillance in reference to females of a certain class; and pensions to all females rearing a family, i.e., ten dollars per annum for life to every mother of five living children, with an additional five dollars per annum for each child—the latter allowance to cease on the child's death.

The appropriation for 1860-1 were, for the civil list, 42,790 dollars; for the Department of the Interior, 116,235 dollars 67 cent; for the Government press, 23,200 dollars; Department of Foreign Affairs, 16,200 dollars; Department of Finance, 81,625 dollars 56 cents; military, 46,536 dollars 15 cents; public instruction, 37,400 dollars; administration of justice, 86,425 dollars; public improvements, 110,841 dollars 61 cents; miscellaneous expenditures, 148,458 dollars 31 cents; supplemental charges for previous years, 1240 dollars 81 cents. Total, 735,482 dollars 40 cents; or, in round figures, about £160,000, English currency.

The King and Queen and the young Prince of Hawaii had been on a tour through the islands, and had returned in excellent health.

Prince Lot Kamehameha, the King's brother, had been, for the benefit of his health, on a trip to Vancouver Island and California in his yacht the Roma Rook, and had been much "lionised" at both places. He had returned, it was stated, with his health perfectly restored.

A destructive blight had shown itself in some of the coffee plantations.

There had been numerous arrivals of the Pacific Whaling Fleet.

The Rev. and Rev. W. Armstrong, President of the Board of Education, had died from injuries received by a fall from his horse.

A fancy fair in aid of the Queen's Hospital was to take place at the Armoury of the Honolulu Rifles, at the suggestion and under the personal inspection of Queen Emma herself.

A man named Henry Grippleis (commonly called Dutch Harry) had committed suicide by shooting himself. He was possessed of considerable property. Extreme bodily pain was said to have induced this act of self-destruction.

The gas works at Honolulu had been suspended for some time (from what cause is not stated), but they were at length in full operation, and the use of the gas was becoming general.

## NEWCASTLE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WHITNEY.—It is from increased population, or, perchance, better times, Newcastle has seldom or ever practiced such a gay appearance as on Christmas eve. Most of the shops were tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and the hotels with streamers and flags; many of the private houses were also very prettily decorated. The streets were crowded with parties viewing the good things displayed in the shops. The storekeepers would have no reason to complain of business, as the most of them were well filled with customers. Christmas day was cool and pleasant, the wind blowing strong from the south-east; in the forenoon we had one or two slight showers. On Boxing day, the morning opened with a clear sky, with a cool breeze from south-east; the Volunteer Artillery met at an early hour in the barracks, and having attached ropes to their gun, pulled it up to the obelisk, where they practised for some considerable time. The firing was very good, and the corps, under the direction of Sergeant Dalby, have gained great proficiency, both in drill and firing; they went through the different evolutions with much credit. Notwithstanding the indicements held out at East Maitland, the morning train from Maitland was crowded with pleasure-seekers. The great attraction of the day appeared to be the excursion trip of the Sunday School children of every denomination, to Waratah; at a little after ten o'clock, the children, accompanied by their parents and teachers, formed in procession at the A. A. Company's paddock, each school headed by a banner, having some device peculiar to the denomination to which it belonged, and most of the children carried flags and streamers, which gave quite a cheerful and gay appearance to the scene. After marching to the railway station, it was found the train was a little behind time; the children, to the number of between three and four hundred, amused themselves by singing a hymn. The train soon arrived, and the children were first accommodated with seats; the adult passengers then came next, but notwithstanding every available carriage was placed on, it was found necessary not only to put on three guards' vans, but also several trucks, and an extra engine to convey the numerous passengers. Mr. Bertson, the traffic manager, certainly deserves the greatest praise for his indefatigable exertions and endeavours to provide accommodation in such an emergency, and for his care and attention in preventing accidents, there not being the slightest casualty on the line during the day. Consequent upon such a large number of passengers, the train did not arrive at Waratah before twelve o'clock. The children having alighted, proceeded in procession to the Mill Paddock, where all kinds of amusements and good things, in the shape of buns, &c., were provided for them. The greater portion of the passengers proceeded to witness the Waratah Races, for which some good prizes were offered. There were six races, and a great number of horses entered for each race. The racing was very good, being well contested, and the result appeared to give general satisfaction. The amusement was somewhat marred in consequence of two of the jockeys being thrown in the third race named O. Cameron and J. Croft; the former was severely bruised by his horse falling on him, and the latter had his collar bone broken; and a lad named Buckle, in the run home for the last race, was thrown with great violence over a drag. They are all progressing favourably. Booths were erected by Mr. J. Thomas, of the Waratah Inn, and old English sports were the order of the day. Twelve five o'clock the company began to make towards the station, and a slight shower at the time accelerated their movements. Thanks to the railway management, the trucks and vans were again put in service, and as many as could be taken with safety were at once conveyed to Newcastle. The train was again dispatched, and by a little after seven o'clock the whole of the pleasure-seekers were brought safely home, apparently highly delighted with their day's pleasure and amusement.

The bazaar in aid of the Grammar School was held at the court-house. The stalls were tastefully decorated, and were well filled with every description of fancy goods; the fair occupants being kept well employed throughout the day. In the evening the bazaar was crowded.

Mr. Coleman gave one of his entertainments at the Caledonian Hotel. The were many other amusements, the whole of which had their share of patronage.

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.—It is probable the Newcastle Volunteer Corps may be induced to accompany the Maitland Corps to Sydney, especially if a steamer be placed at the disposal of the volunteers.

PUBLIC DINNER.—We understand that the friends of the Hon. H. C. Wallace have it contemplation to invite him to a public dinner, to be given on an early day, as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the constituency of West Maitland, which he has so long and faithfully represented in the Legislative Assembly.—Maitland Mercury.

## WEE WAA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

DECEMBER 21.—We have had some delightful rain, which will freshen up the grass, and do much good. I think it has been a general rain, and no doubt has reached the Nowra, Narooma, and Narwin. Fat stock are plentiful now. In February they will be more so after this rain. No doubt this year will be in great requisition before many months, as the rain will help the cattle, and render them sooner fit for the market.

Wednesday was a busy day here—polling-day. Jenkins' colours were blue, Rouldan's white. The voters seemed to enjoy themselves, and a great deal of chaffing as to the merits of the respective candidates was going on (although neither were present). The Wee Waa people have not been so good-humoured for many years, and no doubt the inn-keepers would like contested elections every month, and which did and would add materially to their exchequer, and was needed from their late dulness. The excitement at one time got so high that one or two were compelled to take up their lodging in the lock-up, otherwise all was peace and good order. At four p.m. the Returning-officer declared the poll, as follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Rouden | 15 |
| Jenkins | 14 |

The Returning-officer stated he would declare the poll at Wee Waa on Wednesday, the 26th instant. The general opinion is, that Rouden will be elected, although, as intimated before, 100 will not go to the poll; such great apathy displayed, and the electors care little which is successful, apart from the town of Wee Waa. Returns are to come in from Walgett, Moree, Mills, Curry Mungle, and Wetgill.

A man named William Hamley or Bill the Splitter, was drowned crossing Aberdeen. It was up for two days, and he would not wait for the boat; he was not sober and feel-hardy. He is to be interred at Boone, on the 26th.

## VANCOUVER ISLAND.

We have intelligence from this island to the 3rd of October, by way of California.

The Vancouver Chronicle of that date publishes an "extra," containing particulars of a terrible massacre of an immigrant train by the Snake Indians, who butchered no fewer than forty-five people. It says: H. Schreiber has just arrived at the Dalles, with news of the massacre by the Snake Indians of an entire immigrant train, consisting of forty-six persons, nineteen of whom were men, the balance women and children. The party were first attacked about fifty miles this side of Salmon Falls, on the 8th of September. This attack last about one hour. The Indians then withdrew and allowed the train to proceed five miles, when they again attacked them. The fight lasted two days and one night. On the afternoon of the 10th, the Indians had possession of the whole train, with the exception of six men, who, being mounted, escaped. After travelling through the woods for nine days, these six were again attacked, and five of the party killed—Schreiber alone escaping by hiding in the bushes. After travelling seven days without food, he was found in an exhausted condition by some persons who took him to the Dalles. Of the nineteen males in the party, six were discharged soldiers from Fort Hall. Mr. Schreiber is the only one who escaped. He says that the six men who left on horseback, did not leave until the Indians had complete possession of the train; and from the screams of the women and children, he was led to believe that the whole party were destroyed.

MAGNIFICENT ELK.—An elk was recently killed near Petchaia River, British Columbia, which had antlers three feet six inches high. The dressed meat weighed 900 lbs. There were upwards of forty head of elk in the band.

THE MINES.—The Victoria newspapers contain very favourable reports from the mines, and considerable excitement appears to prevail in regard to them among the people of British Columbia and Washington Territory. A letter appears from Mr. Moody in the New Westminster Times, dated August 9th, in which that gentleman says: he found 600 persons on Rock Creek, all of whom were doing well, "from five to fifty dollars being the average daily yield per man." In a number of instances, claims were paying 100 dollars a day to the man. There seems to be no exaggeration about this, for the statement is corroborated by the testimony of many other persons. The news from the Quesnelle is of a similar encouraging import. On Harvey's Creek men are making from eight dollars to fifty dollars a day to the hand, and in some cases much more. Five men had cleaned up 2100 dollars in six days. The diggings on Keatley's Creek are equally rich. Four men had taken out eighteen ounces in two days. The Rock Creek and Quesnelle country, it is anticipated, will be thickly populated in a very short time. The Portland Advertiser thus reviews the whole subject:—The news of the recent rich mineral discoveries no doubt astonished many of our readers, who could scarcely credit the fact that six men had washed up upwards of two thousand dollars in four days; but that such has been most undoubtedly the case we have indubitable evidence, having seen, conversed with Mr. Jacob Conzer, a gentleman extensively known throughout the State, who informed us that he saw the gold-dust weighed, and knew of its being taken by the parties in question from Harvey Creek. Mr. Conzer informs us that the mineral region extending from the Wenatchee to Quesnelle river is only just being developed—the probable richness of which being a question that time alone can solve. The country over which miners have to travel in reaching the Quesnelle and other northern diggings is represented as very rough, and entirely devoid of even common trails. The first company of prospectors who visited Harvey Creek were compelled to abandon their animals and pack their provisions themselves for a distance of forty miles, through a dense forest, every rod of which was covered with fallen timber. Some idea of the difficulties and expenses incurred in visiting this region may be estimated from the fact that newspapers are sold in the Cariboo country at one dollar and a-half each; flour, fifty dollars per hundred, and all other articles, either of luxury or utility, at proportionate rates. Still the enterprising miner who visits this region will, in all likelihood, repay a rich reward. Some nuggets of gold have been taken from both Harvey and Goose Creeks which rated from 70 dollars to 200 dollars, and which sold at Victoria at 17 dollars 50 cents and 18 dollars 50 cents, per ounce, being higher prices than are realised from Fraser River dust.

## CALIFORNIA.

By the American ship Isonium we have San Francisco papers to the 15th of October, being nearly a month later than previous advices.

Adverting to the prosperity of the State of California, the Daily Herald of the above date remarks:—The exceeding ease of monetary affairs on the steamer day just passed over, together with the fullness of the treasure shipment—which was much larger than any preceding shipment since June 20th, when the semi-monthly arrangement expired—afforded corroborative evidence of what we have heretofore advanced in relation to the wonderful progress our State is making in the acquisition of material wealth, and in the accumulation of those resources necessary to the prosperity and independence of her people. Foreign capital, once so essential to mercantile operations, is no longer regarded as a necessity among us, and fails to dictate its terms, or exercise its exceeding discrimination in securities, as formerly. Indeed, so greatly distinkished has become the money requirement department of trade, particularly in the product of mercantile business, that the avocation of the professional money-lender, whether the representative of foreign or domestic capital, seems fast becoming one of little interest to the community at large, or of profit to those who exercise it.

With reference to the produce of the gold mines, which is said to be falling off considerably, the same journal observes:—We all know that our mines "are giving out"—we have been told so often, by our friends on the other side of the continent; but we need not be alarmed. California would be rich enough in her other resources if she did not produce from her bosom a dollar of metallic treasure. She is now showing that she can sustain the food-wants of her own population, and have considerable to spare to others, and the revenue derived from the exportation of this surplus is an element in the present industry not experienced. Still, somehow or other, the mines fall very slowly. Our contemporary of the Mercantile Gazette has taken some pains to collect the returns of the Express Companies, and he finds that the gold reaching this city through those avenues has shown a remarkable degree of regularity through a series of years. For the first nine months of the present year, the account stands: 1858, 30,971,266 dollars; 1859, 34,935,261 dollars; 1860, 35,291,460 dollars.

Touching the Presidential election, the St. Louis correspondent of the San Francisco Weekly Herald says:—The Breckenridge cause in this State is evidently gaining ground. There is not the least possible doubt but that he will carry the State in November. Estimating the vote at 120,000, it was feared, previous to the August election, that by the division of the Democracy, the vote of the State would be cast for Bell. The August election, however, demonstrated the fact that we have more than 160,000 voters; divided, we think, as follows:—Bell, 40,000; Lincoln, 30,000; Douglas, 30,000; Breckenridge, 60,000. I believe this to be a fair estimate.

THE CATTLE DISEASE.—The Alta California states that the "cattle disease" has made its appearance in the State of California. It performs its deadly work in a very short time, destroying the animal within a few hours after it is attacked. It generally attacks the animals with a sudden swelling of the throat, which soon puts an end to their existence.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—About three o'clock on the morning of the 6th of October, a fire was discovered in the wooden remnant of the old Musical Hall building, corner of Bush and Montgomery streets. The impression prevails that the fire was the work of an incendiary, as the building was ignited in two places at the same time. In consequence of the scarcity of water at the commencement, the firemen were unable to do more than confine the conflagration to the building. The remains, however, show how earnestly and faithfully the flames were disheltled. The whole amount of property lost is estimated at 45,000 dollars, of which only about 10,000 dollars were insured. This is the most destructive fire that we have been visited with for a long time.—Weekly Herald.

PRINCE KAMEHAMEHA.—The Sacramento Union, of 12th October, contains the following in relation to the movements of the Hawaiian Prince:—This somewhat celebrated Prince, accompanied by Hon. David Kalakaua, Aide-de-Camp to his Majesty, and Hon. Levi Haalelea, Aide-de-Camp to H.R.H. Prince Kamehameha, arrived here yesterday (Thursday) morning, on the steamer Queen City, and were politely, but without display, escorted to the residence of A. Reddington, with whom he took breakfast. After breakfast the party received and accepted an invitation from J. P. Robinson, of the Sacramento Valley Railroad, to visit Folsom and the celebrated cave in El Dorado county. At half-past six o'clock the party returned, and proceeded to the Vernon House, as the guests of Colonel Robinson. In the evening the Prince and his friends were escorted to the rooms of the Governor, where they were handsomely entertained by his private secretary, C. T. Torbert, the Governor being absent. During the evening about one hundred and fifty of our leading citizens, including State and county officials, called and paid their respects. At about ten o'clock the Prince and suite adjourned to the Vernon House, and sat down to supper with Colonel Robinson and a few of his friends." The Prince and suite returned to San Francisco on the night of the 12th.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—On Sunday last, says the Stockton Republican of October 11th, the family of Mr. Barton, who resides on the old Benson place, on the Sacramento side of the line, between San Joaquin county and Sacramento, found at a point which was last spring covered with water, the partial remains of two human beings. The skull of one had through it two bullet holes, apparently made by a large size revolver. There was also found some blankets and coats, which had been tied to a bush under water. A letter was found in one of the pockets from a person at the east, urging the individual to whom it was addressed, to come home, as with his capital he could go into the business of sawing black walnut to advantage. A sack of hard bread and some other articles were also found near the spot. In connection with this, it is stated that some months since four men were camped near the spot and a Mr. French rode up and spoke to them. The next morning two of the men crossed the ferry at this place, while the others have never been heard from since.

BEWARE OF THE CROWN.—The Evening Bulletin of the 12th October, says:—The constant demons of the State of California, have seriously disappointed everybody. It was supposed that we had a population of over half a million souls, whereas it is by no means certain that the census will credit us with 400,000. It is not at all improbable that the estimated figures had been somewhat exaggerated, but there is good reason to believe that we have lost one Member of Congress in consequence of gross carelessness on the part of the census-takers. The city of San Francisco, instead of counting up a population of 56,000, dwindles down to 50,000 only.

THE NEWLY DISCOVERED KEARSARGE MINES.—Quite an excitement seems to have been occasioned by the discovery of the Kearsarge Mines situated some hundred miles south-east of Carson city, and twenty miles north of Mono Lake. They consist of both gold and silver bearing quartz ledges, from several of which rock in considerable quantities has been obtained, assaying variously, from fifty to seven hundred dollars in gold, and from seventy-five to six hundred dollars in silver, to the ton; some ledges having yielded at the rate of 1200 dollars in precious metals to the ton. The richest lode in silver is that first found and named by the discoverers (Messrs. Curry, Hicks, and Beale) the Kearsarge. It is a large ledge, principally composed of silver above the surface, and has silver sulphurets diffused in this strata throughout the entire mass. It runs in a north and south direction, and can be traced on the surface for nearly half a mile. The claims originally taken up embrace the southern portion, and are consequently well located. The northern part embracing a great amount of rock, not yet ascertained to be rich in silver. Many smaller ledges lying further down have been found to contain more gold, but less silver, than the Kearsarge. The district in which these rich quartz ledges have been found is only about two miles square, and though much prospecting has been done outside this limit, but as yet with little success.—Territorial Enterprise, October 6.

## SHARKS.

*To the Editor of the Herald.*

SIR,—After making enquiries respecting the startling statement in your issue of this day, I have no hesitation in pronouncing it a pure fabrication, and monstrously absurd. I find that the gentleman said to have been attacked refuses to allow me, or the medical gentleman who "called for the purpose, to see the wounded limb.

The facts of the case are simply as follows:—The gentleman in question on getting out of the water stretched his leg against some barnacles, which his fears magnified into an attack by a shark; and now, in terror of being laughed at, maintains his story, and positively refuses an inspection by qualified persons, whom he knows would at once pronounce on the falsity of the statement.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. G. WILSON, for the Proprietor.

Robinson's Baths, Domains, 27th December.

*To the Editor of the Herald.*

SIR,—In the Herald of the 24th instant, which contains a report of my speech at the declaration of the "poll" at Hyde, on Monday last, I find the following misstatements, which I earnestly request you will be kind enough to correct.

In contradicting the assertions of Mr. Hill, your report states, "that I possessed a freehold worth £1000." It should be "that I held a freehold in Sydney worth several thousands." &c. And again, I did not say that if "Mr. Shepherd would advocate these measures in Parliament which he had said he would, he should, in future, have no stronger supporter than me." It should read, "That if our chosen representative would advocate measures for the welfare of the community, and state back for re-election, I should be the last man to oppose him."

I am sorry for intruding upon your valuable time, but in correcting the above you will be conferring a great favour upon

Your humble servant,

GEORGE MUNTOSH.

Lane Cove, 26th December.

[Our reporter is strongly of opinion that the account given by him of the proceedings at Hyde is substantially correct. Mr. M'Intosh was evidently a little excited when alluding to the allegations set forth by Mr. Hill, and it may be that he is not aware of the precise words he made use of.]

## WANT OF DECENCY.

*To the Editor of the Herald.*

SIR,—As no notice appears to have been taken of the following in your publication of this date, I can only attribute it to the fact that the circumstance has not been brought under your observation.

Yesterday, like many others, I went into the Double Bay for the purpose of witnessing the regatta, for, and when I approached the private baths (which was about noon), I perceived two or three fellows coolly make their appearance at a perfect state of nudity and plunge into the water, in the face of some two or three hundred people, consisting of ladies, gentlemen, and children, who had located themselves for the purpose, like myself, of witnessing the day's sport; and these indecent persons, after having made an exhibition of themselves for about fifteen or twenty minutes in the water, quite unconcernedly marched up the ladder into their separate bunks to dress!

Now, to say the least, I think it really too bad on the part of the bathers to grant permission to any body to bathe at such an unseemly hour on such a gala day, and I sincerely trust that the publication of these few lines will be the means of preventing a recurrence of similar indecency for the future.

I wish it to be clearly understood that the bathers were not children, but persons between the age of thirty and forty.

DECENCY.

December 27.

## EAST SYDNEY ELECTION.

*To the Editor of the Herald.*

SIR,—Although disposed to make considerable allowance for disappointment, and chagrin at the result of the late elections, yet there is a limit beyond which your official correspondent, "Pyne," should not be allowed to pass. Had he confined his remarks to myself personally, I could have afforded to allow him, to make any statements he might choose; but when a religious body is maligned and slandered, and, that, too, in the most impudent and wanton manner, I think it time that every lover of truth should raise his voice.

Had the article headed "The Revolution of 1860," appeared in what is called the sporting prints, I should not have been so much surprised; but you might have known that the Wesleyans, as a body, have not been accustomed to interfere in politics; and that during the late elections, their sectional influence was not brought to bear in favour of any candidate.

"Pyne" is either ignorant of the subject on which he writes, or he has wilfully and grossly misrepresented the facts.

He may think himself the only person acquainted with the Sydney constituency; but his conceit, ignorance, and falsehood, are alike contemptible.

I court the closest investigation into the election at East Sydney; and I assure you it will be found that the Wesleyans, as a sect, had nothing to do with my return to the Assembly.

Yours, respectfully,

J. CALDWELL.

## FREE SELECTION BEFORE SURVEY.

*To the Editor of the Herald.*

SIR,—May I crave a small space in your journal for a few remarks on the above subject. Surely those who now advocate the cry of free selection cannot have duly considered the subject, or they would not support a cause which, if made law, could only entail one of the greatest curses possible on the colony. That any number of men could go and skilldride a tract of country amongst themselves is absurd; the farms would present the most extraordinary shapes, many-sided figures, measured in such a manner as to exclude all indifferent land, which would be left in patches and vacant strips in all directions; in fact like everything else in unskilful hands, it would be cut up to waste; it would be impossible to "dovetail" together these shapeless blocks, however artistically disposed the settlers might feel. I heard one farmer remark that under such circumstances "there would be bloodshed"—"they would not be settled in a twelve-month."

It cannot, however, be intended that these boundaries are to remain permanent; if so, the difficulties and expense of survey will be increased tenfold at least; or if a systematic division is to be made, and the boundaries marked according to the cardinal points, many of those unfortunate free selectors will find slices of their farms cut off, to be added to those of their neighbours. What, then, is gained? No title can be granted until the lands are surveyed, and, as I have already said, the expense and time in performing this duty will be increased tenfold, besides adding to the difficulties of the survey department.

Again, the present Road Act prevents any road being taken within two hundred yards of the principal house on a farm, or of interfering with a garden, orchard, etc., so that a "free selection" settlement may most effectually block up a thoroughfare—or rather prevent any thoroughfare from being hereafter opened!

If agriculture is so necessary, why is not the land already alienated for that purpose under cultivation? Simply because it does not pay, and never will pay, until proper roads and proper markets are formed. It is only in some favoured localities that it does pay. There are many acres of the richest land now lying idle; small farmers could not exist if they depended upon cultivation alone; they earn money as carriers, by sheep washing and shearing, fencing, &c., and pay by cattle stealing.

Before enticing an agricultural population into the interior, careful surveys of the proposed reserves should be made, and all unnecessary roads marked out. These roads, as far as practicable, should form frontages to the farms.

Not only should the reserve be carefully surveyed, but also the roads leading to them from the nearest main road. When all surveys are properly made then if "Free Selection" is to be the law, encourage settlers into the interior; it is unfair to entice them under existing circumstances.

The roads throughout this colony are in a worse state now than they were thirty years ago, and until they are made passable the resources of the colony can never be developed. There is a proposition to expend four millions upon tramroads; this would be very well if the colonists would be satisfied with them hereafter, but I fear not. I should like to see a quarter of a million, or any sum sufficient, to place all roads in proper order, voted. It would be money well spent, there would be no difficulty in selling land, and we might then see the railroad "in good repair." Roads will always be required to get produce to the nearest stations, or what will be the use of the railways? They will tend to do away with a great deal of cattle stealing, for many cattle stealers because it does not pay to cultivate.

I am neither a squatter nor a settler; and therefore no selfish motives can be imputed to me. My opinions have been wholly formed from personal observation, and I am fully persuaded that notwithstanding the natural advantages of the colony it would be comparatively nothing without the squatters; and notwithstanding the importance of agriculture the small farmer would miss the sheepshearing.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

December 26. ROMO.

STRICT INTERPRETATION.—Some years ago, Mr. Kidwell was preaching to a large audience in a wild part of Illinois, and announced for his text: "In my father's house there are many mansions." He had scarcely read the words when an old coon stood up, and said: "I tell you, folks, that's a lie! I know his father well; he lives fifteen miles from Greenville, in old Kentuck, in an old log-cabin, and there ain't but one room in the house."

## PRODUCE CIRCULARS.

[MEST AND CO.]

WOOL.—The sale to-day indicated a "turn of fortune" without any actual decline in prices, except for greasy wools, which are still of sale at a reduction, owing in a great measure to the large quantity in the hands of fellmongers. Out of 818 bales scheduled 187 bales were bought in.

BEESWAX.—The small supply is held standard at late rates.

TALLOW.—Only 18 casks offered, and sold without alteration in prices.

HIDES.—No improvement is note this week—one parcel Rockhampton hides brought 14½d. net.

FAT CATTLE AND SHEEP.—Full supply, and as in usual at Christmas time, both beef and mutton of prime quality are well at the market. No sales of moment to report, but if anything, a slight improvement upon the prices ruling for the last few weeks.

Prices current are as follows:—

Wool, 6d. per lb.

Sheepskins, 1s. to 2s. per ea.

Tallow, 4s. to 4s. per cwt.

Oil, per ton, as per agreement.

Gold, 4 per cent. by sliding vessel, and 5 by steamer.

Exchange on London—Bills at sight, 1 per cent. premium at 60 days' sight.

Private Bills (with produce hypothecated), ½ per cent. discount, if drawn against wool, tallow, or gold.

Prices Current.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Wool. | | |
| | s. | d. | s. d. |
| Superior clip | 1 | 10 | to 1 11 |
| Fair to ordinary | 1 | 4 | to 1 8 |
| Low stealing | 1 | 0 | to 1 2 |
| Greasy | 0 | 9 | to 1 2½ |
| Locks, inferior wool, do. | 0 | 7 | to 1 1 |
| Handwashed | 1 | 3 | to 1 7 |
| Scoured | 1 | 6 | to 2 0 |
| | Tallow. | | |
| Best | 38 | 0 | to 40 0 |
| Mutton | 35 | 0 | to 37 0 |
| Station tallow | 36 | 0 | to 37 0 |
| Rendered | 34 | 0 | to 35 0 |
| Sheepskins, per lb. | 0 | 0 | to 0 0 |

FIRE-STEEL, SYDNEY, 27th December.

MUNN AND CO.'S WEEKLY PRODUCE SALE, THURSDAY, December 27th.—Tuna, animal; dark, 17s. per cwt., and no other alternative. Wool: Fleece, 41d over W, 1d to 2½d; clothing, 2½d; Hume, 2½d; 1½d; Sorne, 4d over W, 10 to 21½d; ditto, 21. O, 10 to 21½d; ditto, T in diamond, 11 to 21½d; ditto, B in diamond, 16d to 19½d; ditto, Hume, 6d to 21½d; inferior, T in diamond, 1 to 8d; ditto, B, 1 to 8d; New Zealand, B, 2 to 8d; slightly damaged, 2 to 4½d; ditto, T in diamond, 1 to 4½d; ditto, B, 1 to 4½d; lambs' wool, 1 to 4½d; pieces, 1 to 4½d; Sorne, 3½ over W, 1 to 4½d; animal, ditto, 1 to 2½d; Tasmania, 2 to 21½d; ditto, Hume, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Port, 1 to 2½d; Sorne, 1½, 2½ to 4½d. Sheepskins: Lot of 7½, 10 to 40s. 2d. to 2s. 10d. Tallow: 1½ casks at 38s 6d, 1 at 37s 6d, 3 at 37s, 4 at 35s. Hides, dry: 18 at 7s, 19 at 6s 8d, 30 at 5s 6d; 1 ditto at 5s 1d; 188 hides at 14½d.

[SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 28TH DECEMBER.]

WOOL.—The market for all descriptions of wool is quiet, and there is little disposition to operate, though no decline. The principal demand is for lambs' wool, and for good washing pieces, and, if from fine sheep, slightly inclined to firmer rates. But even such buyers are offering less than late prices. The greater portion of the wool offered for sale this week has been retained.

TALLOW.—Market quiet. The demand for the trade is confined to lots in store. Nominally at the auctions are 200 casks offered, but the trade have not purchased to any extent, and the greater portion of these will have been retained.

HIDES.—Dull of sale. The tannery have been the principal purchasers, and they have not had any extensive orders for their attention.

Gunnies Quiet, 27th December.

WHALE FISHERY REPORT, TUESDAY, 27TH DECEMBER.—Tuna animal, dark, 1½d. per cwt. and no other alternative. Wool: Sorne, 3½ over W, 1 to 2½d; Hume, 17 over, 1 to 2½d; ditto, 20 unclassed over T, in diamond, 16 below at 21½; pieces, B, 2 to 2½d; ditto, T, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Port, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Hume, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Sorne, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Port, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Hume, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Port, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Port, 1 to 2½d; ditto, Port